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Is Gusty Spence Ulster's Mandela? Wind of change G2 with Europe



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Five pages of unrivalled writing SportExtra England reclaim their losing habit

US merger raises Airbus fears

Threat to 25,000 British workers

EROSPACE Boeing and McDonnell Douglas announced a \$25.6 billion merger yesterday...

The new giant will dwarf Europe's Airbus, with nearly two-thirds of the world's commercial airline market...

The merger announcement comes as officials investigating the Boeing 747, containing a "no-compete" clause...

World's largest mergers, £bn. The International Air Transport Association forecasts annual growth of 7 per cent for the next five years.

Major could win month respite

JOHN Major will tonight buy a four-week respite for his battered government when he offers the modest coalition of disaffected MPs who can bring him down a Christmas policy package designed to cheer them up.



The actress and singer Madonna at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles for the world premiere of British director Alan Parker's film Evita, in which she plays the title role. Review, page 2

Blair to signal tough line on sloppy schools

JOHN Blair will today try to bury 30 years of argument about comprehensive schooling with a speech calling for a new political consensus on education and placing Labour's plans for improving standards and discipline at the heart of his programme for government.

How a tactical error by Southampton's manager cost Dia

SOUTHAMPTON manager Graeme Souness's eyes and feet on to the pitch at the Dell. The normally streetwise Souness's mistake was to fall for a phone call from a man claiming to be World Footballer of the Year, George Weah, of AC Milan.

SOUTHAMPTON got international clearance for the striker on November 22. The following day he made his debut against Leeds, coming on for injured England international Matthew Le Tissier.

anyone else. I do know George Weah. I've got his telephone number in Milan and I've met him a couple of times - but I'm certainly not his best mate. I employed an agent when I came to England and it's him who is the "comman".

Inside

Britain Oats are mounting for an investigation into claims former SS soldiers helped in Britain are being warped by the German government

World News About 100 people were injured in New Orleans as a fire of control fighter slammed into a shopping mall on the waterfront

Finance Joyce will this week launch a fierce campaign to force the government to pay more than £200 million

Sport England's cricket team was set again in Zimbabwe, losing another one-day international and embarrassed by a blundering batsman

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# Skin-deep beauty treatment makes a point

A feast of bizarre colour designs, stainless steel and vast expanses of naked skin greeted visitors to the tattoo and body piercing convention at Sheffield



Martin Wainwright

**T**HE hall was bristling with them — a thousand and one little needles and a thousand or more gaily coloured witnesses to Britain's gradual loss of convention and the grey suit. Stiff upper lip? Stiff lower lip? In the case of Carly Moskwa, manning the Pegasus body-piercing stall at the Sheffield tattoo and body piercing convention, while her colleague Andy Brown makes a neat incision behind a curtain. "I think it's a nipple," she says, as the tiniest sigh comes from the unseen customer. Carly's labret, a shiny metal spike sticking straight from her chin, bobs up and down, gleaming, with every word. In other company, Carly's shrapnel style of jewellery would stand out, but not here.

Joanne Woffinden, aged 21, caught my eye instead, and a great many other people's, as she lolled gracefully in her pants by a body-painting stall, her only other accessory a plastic cup of lager. "A friend of mine was supposed to be doing this but she bolted out," she said as a rich coat of russet and madder was painted on to her skin. "It's well, different. I've not tried it before but I've seen some brilliant body-paint at the Sheffield Roxy club. A girl in a lovely dress, and then you look and, uh-oh, it's just painted on her." Carefully adding a feathery whorl of white and yellow to the ripple of Joanne's spine, painter Tory Brinkman, also 21, warns that nose-toe camouflage takes a long time. "Three hours would be the minimum," she says. But there's enough demand to make Tory's life as a student financially more comfortable. Bodypaint customers come from the ranks of colour-lovers not yet ready for Fat Ryalles, a Sheffield tattooist whose dress sense manages to distract loafing bystanders even from Joanne. Peering through orange, almond-shaped spectacles above a skull-and-roses tie and a safari suit in artificial tiger-skin, he steers punters into his temporary tattooing stall.



A tattooist practicing his art on the back of a customer at the Sheffield convention at the weekend. PHOTOGRAPH: TIM SMITH

"She's got such big thighs," he says thoughtfully, as Jayne Limer patiently submits to the tiny needles, indelibly printing a pattern of dragons and catwomen gambolling between knee and groin. "Eight hours, this design will proba-

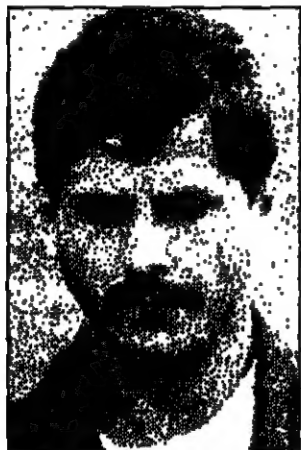
bly take, in a couple of sessions. But people will often commission back-tattoos which take over 20. They get to know you, to steer clear of the scratchers." The scratchers are the cheap skate downside of tattoo-

ing, easier to avoid now that body art has made a spectacular emergence from the back streets. The Don Valley has its share of the bullet-necked, potbellied types most people still associate with tattoo, but we're also talking Pamela An-

derson, Geena Davis, Helen Mirren, even the MP Teresa Gorman. "Actually it's cosmetic tattoo — eyebrows — in her case," says the Sheffield party's organiser Stuart Kingsley-Innes, prompting

thoughts about the lottery of politics. A Gorman can have so little and a Denis Healey so much. "But the internet women are showing in tattoo is one of the big changes. Come over here and meet Annie of Skin Deep. A swish of magenta hair, and Annie of Skin Deep emerges: meet the Editor of the Year for the tattoo trade. The citation for her Chestnut-based magazine Skin Deep praised, "not just the best in Europe but in the world; bringing the best information, photos, journalism and quality to a tattoo magazine." She's seen and covered "a revolution in the country's attitude to tattooing, especially over the past 10 years, after things started to change in America. They came up with some wonderful tribal and Celtic patterns which have really caught on." The long reign of skin skulls and dragons was over: a delicate wrist could have a slender, wispy motif and the number of female tattooists began to grow. "We've eight here this weekend," said Stuart. Women play a leading commercial role in the tattoo-linked supporting stands. For example, Mad Madam Mimim (she's not the one) is busy in the East Midlands, turning out stainless steel diamond liners (£5 retail) and Brass D-shaped shades (£8) for Danny's Tattoo Supplies of Nottingham. "We design them all ourselves," says Danny, saving for customers behind a chemist's-shop range of bottled coloured inks. "Then send them out to engineering companies to turn or machine."

am Mimim has green hair and "a rather big tattoo which I won't show here." Also manned by Merlin and Mother Christmas (a homey West Country couple called Jim and Marie Kinnin), Madam's stall has lemons, oil-lina, labrets, skeleton-handst buckle belts and a line in piglets in resin snowstorm domes which you shake for a festive, wintry scene. "Ah, these are for the nice people," says Marie, brushing a little dust off a piglet dome with her finger. "They do sell, but it's very quiet here today. You ought to come to Dunstable in September. That's the Mecca of British tattoo." The Bedfordshire party and convention, the first (started eight years ago) and still the best, will also tickle up trade for the manufacturing side of tattoo. Casting, forging and engineering — sometimes tried out as a vintaged side of British life — are busy in the East Midlands, turning out stainless steel diamond liners (£5 retail) and Brass D-shaped shades (£8) for Danny's Tattoo Supplies of Nottingham. "We design them all ourselves," says Danny, saving for customers behind a chemist's-shop range of bottled coloured inks. "Then send them out to engineering companies to turn or machine."



**A country scandalised by the activities of a murderous paedophile ring is bracing itself for more grim discoveries, reports Julie Wolf in Brussels**



Flashback to August, when police uncovered the bodies of two girls in the garden of a house owned by Marc Dutroux (top left) PHOTOGRAPH: OLIVER HOBBET

## Belgian police search for more bodies of children

**B**ELGIANS are braced for further revelations this week in the child-sex scandal that has horrified the country, as police search for more bodies of children at a disused coal mine near the southern city of Charleroi. The mine shaft at Jumet is believed to contain evidence linked to a paedophile ring allegedly run by Marc Dutroux, a convicted child rapist who has been in detention since August. Since the exposure of the ring four months ago, four girls have been found dead, and two in captivity. Police are still looking for seven children. Mr Dutroux lived in a car-

van near the mine during the early 1980s and had expressed interest in buying land in the area, Belgian radio reported. At the weekend, police found two entrances to the mine shaft. They are working on the basis of new information received since another part of the disused mine was examined in October. At that time, investigators were following up information from Mr Dutroux and his second wife, Michelle Martin, but failed to discover anything suspicious. Marcel Guissard, a gendarme major, said at the scene this weekend: "We have found two holes and are seeking to excavate them so that

we can reach the tunnel which conforms with the information we have. Based on information from some of the arrested people, and certain inquiries we have been able to make, we are convinced that here at Jumet ... not far from the tunnel we searched (in October), there is another underground place where we may find traces of children or somewhere they were held." Investigators said the painstaking search at Jumet was likely to last all week. A cache of arms found at the scene was believed to be unrelated to the inquiry. The Dutroux affair has scandalised Belgium and pro-

voked public outcry against the country's judicial and political system. About 250,000 people took to the streets of Brussels in October to demand justice for the families of the missing children. This prompted Belgium's prime minister, Jean-Luc Dehaene, to announce legal reforms aimed at ending political appointments to the judiciary and bolstering the rights of victims of crime. Mr Dutroux and several alleged accomplices were arrested in August after two young girls were rescued alive from a secret dungeon in a house he owned. They had been sexually abused. Two days later, Mr Dutroux

led police to the bodies of Melissa Russo and Julie Lejeune, two eight-year-olds who had been missing for 14 months, in the garden of one of his houses. They had starved to death. Police also found the body of an alleged accomplice of Mr Dutroux, Bernard Weinstein. Three weeks later, the chief suspect led investigators to Weinstein's former house in Jumet, where they unearthed the bodies of An Marchal and Eefje Lambrecks, who had disappeared a year earlier. Four months after the affair came to light, homes and cars in the country still carry posters of Melissa and Julie. The Belgian public's dis-

trust of the political and legal establishment has been fuelled by allegations that Mr Dutroux received protection from police officials who allowed his activities to go undetected even after he had been released early from a jail sentence for rape. There have also been rumours, so far unproven, of high-level links to the paedophile ring. Although Belgium's parliament has cleared the deputy prime minister, Elio Di Rupo, over accusations that he had sex with boys, another politician accused of paedophilia, Jean-Pierre Grafé, resigned as a minister in the francophone regional government.

## MPs condemn interview with head's killer

**A** NEWSPAPER confession of regret by the teenager convicted of murdering headteacher Philip Lawrence has been condemned as outrageous and offensive by MPs. Last night the Sunday Times came in for heavy criticism after it published a front-page interview with Leano Chindamo given from Glentworth young offenders' centre in Birmingham. Sir Ivan Lawrence, chairman of the Home Affairs select committee, said he intended to raise the issue of convicted criminals giving interviews with the Press Complaints Commission. He said it was not right that a "murderous thug" should be given a public platform, and suggested that such behaviour should be a disciplinary matter. The Lawrence family's Tory MP Harry Greenwood said it was outrageous that Chindamo should be given publicity. "This just adds to the pressure on the Lawrence family and they have quite enough." Speaking by telephone to the newspaper, the 16-year-old refused to acknowledge that he murdered Mr Lawrence, who was 48, as he went to intervene in a gang attack on a 13-year-old pupil outside St George's School in Maida Vale, north-west London, a year ago. The report, which ran under a headline claiming the killer prays for his victim's family every night, Chindamo said he thought Mr Lawrence

was very brave. He said he had often thought of writing to his widow, Frances, but said he was concerned that any letter he sent to her would be misinterpreted and cause her further grief. "It is hard, after being convicted of his murder, for me to write. In a way, it might make them sad to hear from me." After Chindamo, son of an Italian gangster, was ordered by an Old Bailey judge to be detained indefinitely, Mrs Lawrence spoke of her feeling of "overwhelming sympathy" for the teenager who had destroyed his own future as well as the lives of her family. In response, Chindamo said if he had been in the same situation he did not know if he would have been so forgiving. "It is hard for me to say. I feel very sorry for all the family, especially for the son, the little boy. I think of him when I am praying. I pray for the family every night and ask God to look over them." "I regret a lot of it. At the time I thought what I was doing was right. I was going to help a friend." According to the report Chindamo's mother Paquita expressed pride in her son's public statement of regret. But Norman Brown, director of the Victims of Crime Trust, said no one wanted to know what he had to say. "How can we allow someone like him to give an interview? He should be quiet and let Mrs Lawrence and her family get on with their lives. The way things are going prisoners will soon be hosting chat shows from their cells."

## Madonna's Eva leaves you tangoed

**Premiere**  
**Jonathan Romney**  
**Evita**  
**E**VITA is remarkable film-making, all right — and such a lot of it. Its director, Alan Parker, has never been afraid to push out the boat, and his treatment of the hit musical sends out whole fleets of them, with attendant cannons and bombast, for two and a quarter hours. You have to give him his due: if *Evita* is finally a little grumbling, it's largely because you're subjected to a non-stop barrage of Andrew Lloyd-Webber's music, most of which sounds even more imaginatively threadbare than you remembered. But it's heartening that of all the names in line to direct it, Parker got the job. If it had been Oliver Stone — co-credited with Parker as script-writer — the result would have been that hyper-ventilating pop-video or reverential monolith-making, Parker finds a just medium,

laying on more than a touch of the David Lean — choral grandeur and a cast of thousands — but lacing it with his own cinematic sense of cheek. He manages to bring out both the grandeur and the misery, not to mention the sheer tabloid sleaze, in the tale of Eva Duarte, the go-getter who clawed her way to popular sainthood. It was a smart stroke casting Madonna, whose own status as a Woman of Scandal gives a piquant edge. She's not quite as magnetic as you might have expected, although her singing has acquired a gravitas we haven't heard before. But there is a cool, iconic distance that perfectly fits the role of the self-made woman who, like Madonna herself, disappears into her own billboard image. In fact, the real star is Antonio Banderas, as the narrator who sings us through Eva's rise and fall, and who, with many a raised eyebrow to camera, points up the story's ironies. As for the men in *Evita*'s life, Jonathan Pryce brings weight, humanity and a mesmerising false nose to the dictator Juan Peron, and Jimmy Nail is agreeably louché as the first of many men to engage



Antonio Banderas: Real star of the film

with Eva in her career-making amorous tango. Parker's single most inspired move is to use the French cinematographer Darius Khondji — whose dark, frosted sepiá look works on several fronts — at different moments. This enhances the film's grand architectural feel and points up the everyday shoddiness behind the myth. Even when the songs and

action pall, its visual texture keeps you hooked. But there's not much to be done with Lloyd-Webber's music, especially when it reveals its pedestrian pop roots. That said, Madonna and some subtle orchestrations make Another Suitcase A Little Dirty sound fetching, and by the time you've heard Don't Cry For Me Argentina in its full incarnation, you're just about softened up for it. Hard-core Webberites will slaver over every last note. For the rest of us, the film more or less makes its point in the first 90 minutes. Once *Evita* has at last stepped on to the presidential balcony you find yourself wondering when Tim Rice's rise-and-fall libretto is going to unearth any real ironies. Parker doesn't quite get over the problem that the musical ends up talking us into rapt admiration for a self-seeking right-wing demagogue. Ultimately it tells us no more than that "she had her moments, she had her style". Still, with more than its mileage of striking moments, *Evita* is unlikely to leave you unimpressed on some level. The least you can say is, you know when you've been tangoed.

## Blair to embrace tough line to improve school standards

**B**lair will promise changes in the machinery of government to make the Department for Education and Employment "one of the great departments of state", on a par with the Treasury, Foreign Office and Home Office. Party spokesmen dismissed suggestions that he might signal the importance of education by taking over the portfolio himself. His praise for David Blunkett leaves little doubt that the shadow education secretary is expected to retain the portfolio. Lingered doubts that Labour might unscramble the merger of the education and employment departments also appear to have been quashed. Labour's education consensus would be based on rigorous testing, strong discipline, parental involvement and high-quality teaching, with special emphasis on the training of headteachers. There would be new procedures for heads from successful schools to take over the management of their struggling neighbours. Local education authorities would be expected to intervene to provide intensive care for trou-

bled schools before the Office for Standards in Education registered them as failures. When a school attracted criticism for declining standards of discipline or academic achievement, it should be put under the control of a successful head who would be given up to a year to weed out inadequate teachers and put the establishment back on its feet. There would be national guidelines for school rescue and each case would require government approval. "We need to be able to intervene early with sufficient power to stop the spiral of decline ... We will encourage tried and tested leadership teams in successful schools to take responsibility for underperforming schools and provide a lifeline for those caught in a vicious circle of low expectations, poor management, declining rolls and low morale," Mr Blair will say. Mr Blair is returning to Ruskin College 20 years after the landmark speech there by Lord Callaghan, the last Labour Prime Minister, which set the terms of "great debate" on what should be done to reverse Britain's educational decline.

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### Chris Mihill on a sad and expensive addiction



Shoppers in Oxford Street, London — an estimated 700,000 shopaholics have an average debt of up to £7,000, and rarely enjoy or use their purchases PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

## Don't go mad, go shopping



Pop star Elton John loves spending money. He buys for himself — more than 3,000 pairs of glasses, and hundreds of items of jewellery — and for his friends. He bought Liz Taylor a £100,000 ring, his boyfriend an £80,000 Aston Martin, and he gave a Rembrandt to his favourite guitarist.



The debt-ridden Duchess of York, former wife of Prince Andrew, last month admitted she was addicted to shopping. She reportedly spent £200,000 in one hour at Bloomingdale's, New York, and took one car for herself and another for her purchases. She said she equated shopping with a lack of self-esteem.

THOSE who are powerless to resist that must-have item as they haunt Britain's shopping centres should reflect on the fact that their addiction probably springs from an unhappy relationship or revenge.

As the Christmas jingle of tills reaches heights not seen since the mid-1980s, researchers from Oxford university report today that an estimated 700,000 shopaholics have an average debt of up to £7,000 and rarely enjoy or use their purchases anyway.

Richard Elliott and Kevin Gournay analysed questionnaires from 101 "addictive consumers" and compared them with 292 "normal" shoppers.

They also interviewed 80 shopaholics — 46 women and four men aged between 19 and 74. They asked about lifestyle and problems such as marital breakdown, stress or substance abuse, and how they felt about their behaviour.

Half the group had debts of between £1,000 and £7,000, and one in 10 had debts of more than £12,000. One woman owed £70,000 after remortgaging her house to fund her habit. Almost all the purchases were clothes, which they often never wore.

The Oxford study, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, says many women use shopping in the same way men use alcohol — to forget their problems.

One woman aged 37 said: "Shopping is the only time I forget all the other problems in life." Another woman aged 48 said: "Shopping makes me forget who I am — I feel I can get away from the real me."

Compulsive shoppers emerge as sad and sometimes depressed people who see their relentless purchasing as a way of exercising control over their lives. Lifting their mood or exacting revenge for a lack of self-esteem.



### 'Don't get mad, get everything'

Ivana Trump (left), in cameo role in the film *The First Wives' Club*

The former Czech ski champion and ex-wife of US billionaire Donald Trump took the title of Queen of Shopping from Imelda Marcos, the former Philippines first lady who had 3,000 pairs of shoes in her wardrobe. Mrs Trump won a \$25 million divorce settlement, allowing her to retain the title. Her House of Ivana range of cosmetics and jewellery, available on a TV shopping channel, has brought the joys of shopping to millions of couch potatoes.

The researchers also looked at factors such as how often people bought things, whether they felt others would be horrified if they knew of their spending habits, and whether people felt anxious or nervous on days they did not go shopping.

The survey shows that the "pathological" shoppers were at different stages of their addiction — some had taken steps to break the habit while others had only recently come to terms with the unmanageable financial and social consequences of their addiction.

However all exhibited the same characteristics. "They showed the same pattern of anticipation and excitement prior to and during the shopping experience, feelings of guilt and remorse afterward, and a desire to keep their behaviour and goods a secret."

Revenge was an important motive for one in 10 addictive shoppers. In other cases people were using shopping

to create meaning for their lives, trying to become skilful purchasers, making the best possible buys with the money available to them.

The revenge group experienced a lack of control in relationships, either with partners or fathers. "They felt undermined and patronised and that their only responsibility was for 'mundane' tasks such as housekeeping and cooking. Comments such as 'he still treats me like a child' were common."

Some consumers perceived themselves as the victims of betrayal in a relationship. Having taken overt action to address the situation and found it unsuccessful, they adopt a more subversive method of "getting back" at their partner — by developing and maintaining an addiction to consumption.

Many of the addictive shoppers went shopping three or four days a week — and one in 10 shopped every day.

The study found that 65 per cent of the addictive shoppers often felt others would be horrified if they knew of their spending habits, compared with 10 per cent of the normal shoppers. Sixty-one per cent of the addicts had often bought things when they

could not afford them, compared with 10 per cent of the normal group, and 21 per cent of the addicts felt nervous or anxious on days when they did not go shopping, compared with 1 per cent of the normal group.

## Cypriot suspicions greet Rifkind

Islanders dismiss minister's brief peace mission as electioneering

Chris Drake in Nicosia and Ian Black in London

CYNICISM and indifference greeted the arrival in Cyprus yesterday of Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, on a peace mission highly touted by the Foreign Office.

On what is billed as a two-day visit — although it will last less than 24 hours — Mr Rifkind is pitching into an international effort to bring about a settlement between Greeks and Turks on the divided island, even though diplomats admit that the chances of success are uncertain.

The visit was brought forward by one day because the Foreign Secretary has to hurry back to London, now that the Conservatives have lost their parliamentary majority, in time for tonight's Commons vote on European Union fisheries policy.

Today's Cyprus Mail gave voice to the suspicion widely held in the Greek-controlled south of the island, although denied in London, that Mr Rifkind's visit is mainly aimed at winning votes for the Tories from the large Cypriot community in Britain in the forthcoming General Election.

Mr Rifkind's change of schedule was not lost on some of those Greek Cypriots doing their Christmas shopping in Nicosia yesterday.

One woman outside the local branch of Marks & Spencer said: "Your British politicians are the same as all the rest. They're more interested in saving themselves."

Publicly, Cypriot officials will give Mr Rifkind a warm welcome, but even they do not believe his visit will produce few concrete results.

With the United States and the EU working on fresh

initiatives, Cypriots north and south of the line which divides the island believe Britain is trying to claw back its role as leader of any mediation process. However, they admit that such international competition is no bad thing.

All the external parties working on Cyprus — the US, the EU and the United Nations — share Britain's view that the status quo is too dangerous to maintain.

Four Greek Cypriots and one Turkish soldier have been killed along the buffer zone between the two sectors in recent months.

And with a large military force from mainland Turkey entrenched in the north of the island, the Greek south has been on an arms-buying spree.

Mr Rifkind is to meet separately today with the Cypriot president, Glafcos Clerides, and Rauf Denktaş, who heads the breakaway Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus established in 1983 but recognised only by Turkey.

"The chances are not brilliant, but a window of oppor-

tunity does exist," said one British official. "The problem is that it is a very small window and Mr Denktaş is a very big person."

Negotiations have been stuck since 1982 when both sides looked at a UN-brokered set of "ideas" — formal draft proposals always provoke disagreement — for a "bi-communal federation" of the two communities.

Mr Rifkind is accompanied by Sir David Hannay, one of the most sharp-tongued of Britain's diplomatic trouble-shooters, who has been preparing the ground since being brought out of retirement to become a special envoy last May.

Sir David, a former ambassador to the EU and UN, has drawn up a strategy of linking the drive for a settlement to the prospect of Cyprus's accession to the EU, on which talks are due to begin in 1996.

There was much bristling last month when Mr Rifkind told the House of Commons that it would be "extremely difficult" for Cyprus to join before there was a peace deal.

## Audit leads to Abbey tightening controls

Dominic Walsh and Alex Brummer

THE Abbey National, Britain's second biggest mortgage lender, has moved to strengthen the financial controls in its treasury department after its auditors, Coopers & Lybrand, expressed deep concern about their durability.

The move follows a routine audit under Section 39 of the Banking Act, which was automatically passed to the Bank of England.

It is understood the Bank, which regulates the Abbey National, has endorsed the changes proposed by Coopers & Lybrand in conjunction with the Abbey. The Abbey's board is believed to have been alerted to deep concerns at a lack of risk control systems in its treasury function, which is mainly responsible for raising money on the wholesale markets. The treasury function, set up when Abbey National joined the stock market in 1986, manages the group's balance sheet exposures, hedging against interest rate changes and currency movements.

When the Guardian contacted the Abbey at the beginning of last week it denied the existence of any critical report or document on the operations of its treasury.

However, in a series of conversations with the Guardian over the last week Gareth Jones, the group treasurer, said that in the course of its audits "the auditors came up with a lot of recommendations of how things should be improved and these have been acted upon".

He added there had been no losses in the treasury department and Coopers & Lybrand had given it "an absolutely clear report". Abbey National's finance director, Ian Harley, said: "Every organisation will flag up issues, but they should not be taken out of context." He confirmed, however, that the company had been contacted by the Bank of England over the matter.

The Bank has considerably tightened its procedures for the regulation and supervision of banks over the last 18 months following the Barings fiasco, when Nick Leeson's

trading activities sparked Barings' collapse. Under the terms of the Banking Act it can convene a tripartite meeting of the company officials responsible, the company's auditors and Bank of England supervisors, when questions about compliance are raised.

As a result of the questions raised by Coopers & Lybrand, the Abbey has reportedly moved its dealing rooms from Newbury, Berkshire, to an improved facility in London's Docklands. It has invested heavily in information technology systems and security and instituted triple checking to ensure incorrect details of treasury trades do not enter its computer records.

Mr Jones had told the Guardian that any changes of procedures made were in keeping with the general effort to tighten up supervision of banking institutions, following the Barings debacle in February 1988.

In a statement to the Sunday Telegraph, Coopers & Lybrand said: "We are entirely satisfied that Abbey National takes these reports seriously and responds to any recommendations for ongoing improvements."

Abbey National has a market value of almost £10 billion, annual profits of more than £1 billion and — following the recent acquisition of National & Provincial, another mortgage lender — some 15 per cent of the UK home loans market.

A letter this week to the Guardian from Herbert Smith, the Abbey National's solicitors, refers to the existence of "a report prepared by our clients' auditors, Coopers & Lybrand, for our clients' purposes". It adds: "This report is clearly confidential to our clients."

Although there is no suggestion whatsoever that the lack of risk control systems has led to any abnormal losses by Abbey National, traders, the Bank of England's interest will focus attention on the risks involved in running a complex treasury operation. This will be of particular interest at a time when many building societies are moving from the tightly controlled regime operated by the Building Societies Commission to the greater freedom allowed to them as banks.

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Albert Wilson, above, charged with raping his 12-year-old stepdaughter, is in prison in Manila where his partner Vicky Delistan, below, visits him daily

PHOTOGRAPH: SEAN SMITH

# Briton on rape charge in Philippines fears he could be victim of court hostility

Owen Bowcott on an alleged 'heinous crime'

FORMER taxi driver from Kent, facing a death sentence in the Philippines on a charge of rape, has claimed he is the victim of an attempt to extort money from him. Albert "Sunny" Wilson, who has lived with his common law wife, Vicky Delistan, in a suburb north of Manila for the past five years, is being



held in a local prison, sharing a cell with more than 20 other inmates. Unshaven and with a sallow complexion, Mr Wilson, aged 45, can receive visitors and telephone calls but cannot exercise. He sleeps on the concrete floor of Cell Number 6 in Valenzuela jail. Water must be carried up in a plastic dustbin to be divided

among prisoners and there is only one toilet. "Every time I want to leave the cell to take a telephone call or stretch my legs," Mr Wilson explains, "I have to pay the guards 20 pesos (50 pence). The food is inedible, rice and sometimes a small amount of fish and vegetables. "What they give us in a

introduced in 1984. According to the latest figures, there are 267 convicts on death row. Of those, 46 are fathers found guilty of raping their daughters. There have not yet been any executions. The British embassy, whose staff have been visiting Mr Wilson, hopes that because the charge does not involve a blood relative, the death sentence could not be passed. But Mr Wilson's Manila lawyer, Mrs Nazareno, says that the case has been classified as a "heinous crime" despite the fact that there is no corroborating evidence and that medical reports are inconclusive. Ms Delistan, aged 38, has stood by him, supporting his claim that her daughter was persuaded to make the allegations in order to force him to pay out cash to relatives. "They want to make money out of me," Mr Wilson maintains. "I'm a foreigner and to them that means I'm a millionaire. They have approached me and asked for 1 million pesos (£25,000) to have the allegations withdrawn." Mr Wilson first went to the Philippines on holiday in 1990. He returned the following year and decided to stay. He has two children of his own in Britain. His daughter, Denise, aged 23, who lives in Dover, has just given birth to a grandchild, Jordan, he has never seen. "He was back here in April and there was no problem at all then," she said. "He's been going back and forth for several years. I can't believe what's happened." The timing of the case is also worrying Mr Wilson's lawyers. Several Britons have recently received long sentences in widely reported paedophile cases in the Philippines. The judicial climate is not expected to be sympathetic to Britons coming before the courts. "I have had local television cameras in the prison taking pictures of me in the cell," Mr Wilson says. Even if he is found not guilty, he fears that the process may take several years. "There are people in here who have been waiting for three years for a trial." Their home, built by Mr Wilson, is a two-roomed bungalow several miles away on the outskirts of town. There is a statue of the Virgin Mary on one wall and beneath it the motto: "Wish and expect miracles to happen." The Foreign Office, which has helped Mr Wilson find a lawyer, said it was aware of the case and his claims.

# Demand to seek out SS pensioners

Vivak Chaudhary

CALLS were mounting yesterday for an investigation into reports that hundreds of former SS soldiers and Nazi collaborators living in Britain are being paid a pension by the German government for their war service.

According to reports, the German government is paying more than £1 million per year to 459 former soldiers who settled in Britain after the war. Politicians and Jewish groups said yesterday that the payments needed to be investigated to ensure that none of the veterans was guilty of war crimes. The German government refuses to release a list of those receiving pensions, and British police and war crimes investigators are only allowed access if they have specific names. Most of those receiving the pension of £2,800 per year, on top of state pensions they receive from the British government, are believed to be from the former Soviet bloc where they enrolled or were conscripted into Hitler's Waffen SS or police units attached to the military. Some are also believed to be ethnic Germans who settled in Britain.

Lord Merlyn-Rees, the former Home Secretary and chairman of the all-party parliamentary war crimes committee, said: "It is important to discover if there is any sense in which those people receiving payments committing war crimes." Winston Churchill, Conservative MP for Davyhulme, added: "It doesn't surprise me at all that the German au-

# Gothic collection to lay a nest egg

Geoffrey Gibbs

WHEN Andrew Stevens spotted a rare copy of a Conan Doyle novel in a London bookshop more than 30 years ago it sparked a life-long passion which is expected to produce a £100,000 retirement nest egg. The Return of Sherlock Holmes - bought for the then princely sum of three pounds and ten shillings - became the first book in a collection of over 6,000 pieces of early detective fiction and gothic horror stories. The best of them come under the banner at Sotheby's in London tomorrow.

Mr Stevens, who has a law practice in Devon, has decided to part with over 2,000 Victorian and Gothic titles. Some - including a first edition of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde still in its original paper cover - will be particularly hard to part with. Mr Stevens discovered the Stevenson chiller on display outside a bookshop in a Welsh border town. He paid a shilling but says the book has become highly sought after and is now worth around £1,000. One of the most unusual books is a copy of the first ever Dracula novel. The book, which pre-dates Bram Stoker's work by almost 80 years, was written by Lord Byron's physician, John Polidori, after he had taken part in a ghost-story telling competition with Byron and Mary and Percy Shelley. As well as spawning Mary Shelley's gothic masterpiece Frankenstein the occasion



Andrew Stevens with his books PHOTOGRAPH: ROBIN PRICE

# Friends who became E. coli victims

Erlend Clouston at the church where one of the worst food poisoning outbreaks started

THE bespectacled minister quipped up the green lemonade bottle. "Look, here's some we brought back," said Rev James Davidson, wryly sloshing the turquoise holy water to and fro. Mr Davidson was explaining how two years ago the same fluid had been used to baptise Josie Foster, the 83-year-old Wishaw woman who this weekend became the twelfth victim of Lanarkshire's E. coli epidemic. The epidemic has now reached the dubious distinction of being one of the world's worst food poisoning outbreaks. "She was a delightful old buddy," reminisced the cleric who has now had to bury five poisoned members of his congregation with another two more scheduled for this week. Mr Davidson led the Wishaw Old Church expedition to the Holy Land which ended with Mrs Foster being baptised at Caesarea, below Mount Hermon, in Philippi. "She did everything; she had a great time," he recalled. His service, once again, had been forced to mingle the Christmas message of hope with spoken and unspoken responses to the

plague which has overwhelmed his 150-year-old church. Mrs Foster had been one of 90 diners who ate for the twice-yearly meal laid on by the parish for the very elderly and housebound. Neighbours yesterday remembered a generous woman. "She used to sit at the window waving at everyone who walked past," reported retired coach-builder Frank Stafford. The church meal had been a treat for the Aidrie hairdresser's widow, largely dependent on the dial-a-bus service and various neighbours and pieces to stay in touch. In his office, adjacent to the fatal dining room, 54-year-old Mr Davidson pointed out the seven deceased had been his friends, not just church members. Earlier, details of the funeral services for Josie, Jimmy Henderson and Bert Swanston had been tactfully delayed until the Sunday school children fled out. Mr Davidson said prayers for "Josie", "doctors and nurses" and "that we may be victors in spite of being victims". Two of the original 14 diners remain in hospital, with a further 15 recovering at home. Spiritually, he believes the line is holding. Yesterday's 130 worshippers were given a sermon based on St Paul's Letter to the Romans which emphasised the permanence of God's presence in times of tribulation.

# Ex-Royal Navy man seeks damages for asbestosis

Kate Watson-Smyth

RETIREE Royal Naval engineer who was exposed to asbestos dust during his service will tomorrow challenge in the High Court the law that prevents surviving members of the Armed Forces from pursuing claims for compensation. Ronald Quinn, 65, is the first person to bring such a case which, if successful, could open the floodgates for hundreds of similar claims. Mr Quinn, who served in the navy from 1949 to 1956, suffers from asbestosis and is practically bedridden. He is seeking damages of up to £125,000. As the law stands civilian employees of the Ministry of Defence are able to claim compensation for asbestosis-related illness but servicemen are not. During one eight-week period Mr Quinn worked on HMS Glory as a stoker/mechanic. He was required to clean the boiler which meant stripping asbestos insulation from pipes. Workers had no protective equipment, and were not warned of the dangers, according to Mr Quinn. In 1979 he was forced into early retirement through ill-health and in 1989 he was told he had a malignant mesothelioma. He is too ill to travel from his home in Leeds to Manchester for the hearing but his solicitor, Paul Gianvillo, said he was determined to fight the case. "It is all down to the wording of section 10 of the 1947 Crown Proceedings Act."

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The Guardian Monday December 16 1996

Britain in Europe

Blair denies he will be 'soft touch' for the EU

Michael White and John Palmer

TONY Blair yesterday moved to reassure voters that he plans to make Britain a "strong leading player" in the European Union if he wins the coming election...

weekend summit in Dublin — hoping for a more positive British team. With Mr Major and his senior colleagues piling on the "soft touch" rhetoric...

Labour cabinet 'would retain national control on areas such as defence, tax, immigration and border controls'

Labour should be success or failure. And the truth is, because of the problems in the Conservative Party, we are probably in the weakest position Britain has been in — weak in terms of gaining the things we actually want since we entered the Common Market.

achieved on tax: take a strong Tory issue and make it a plus for Labour. Privately, Mr Major tells EU leaders he would like to sound more positive, but cannot, Mr Blair was told.

"big three" weight to help protect the smaller states from the Franco-German axis. The Dutch government, which takes over the rotating EU presidency on January 1, believes it may be able to strike a deal on a new EU treaty which will have the backing of a Blair-led government.

Mr Blair told the Dutch prime minister, Wim Kok, that he would take a "co-operative" approach to the inter-governmental conference negotiations and was determined to reach agreement with Britain's EU partners in Amsterdam.

He was speaking ahead of today's annual fisheries debate. Mr Trimble said he was looking for assurances over fish and beef — both important industries for Ulster.

Clarke stands up for euro notes

Michael White

KENNETH CLARKE last night defended the design of the proposed Euro-currency as "deliberately a bit Euro and non-national", and heaped scorn on the Euro-sceptic Tory press for making such a fuss about the banknotes.



Ken Clarke: 'psychedelic colours are for security'

for its notes over the years, and said that "most people don't know what's on the banknotes they use now. I don't think it's just the British... that's true of most of the Continent."

party. It is a new party with new standards, new values. Historical connections, but very, very different from what was happening only two years ago.

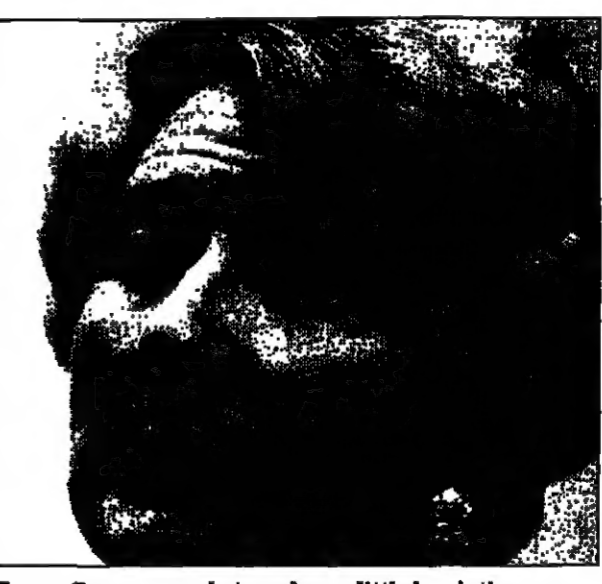


A kiss for Christmas? ... Ms Gorman wants a mistletoe boycott because the main supplier is France

'Bogus' French berries are kiss of death to loyal Gorman

John Ezzard

TERESA Gorman is making one of the supreme sacrifices for an Essex MP. She is giving up mistletoe for Christmas "even if it does mean a little less intimacy."



Teresa Gorman: ready to endure a little less intimacy

Mistletoe's tale

Mistletoe is a unisexual parasite whose roots infiltrate gaps in bark and send runners throughout a tree. It loves apple trees, limes and Hawthorn.

Advertisement for Dell computers featuring 'Buy Now, Pay June Next Year' offer. Includes details on financing, system options, and contact information (01282 777 111).

Tory left denies defection talk

Michael White considers the prospects of political realignment after the general election over the question of Europe

TORY moderates yesterday dismissed the chances of a mass defection to the Liberal Democrats if the Conservative Party swings to the right after losing the coming election.

Edwina Currie, who last week threatened to stand down in her marginal Derbyshire South seat if more concessions are made to the Eurosceptics, few pro-EU Tories are willing to put their heads above the parapet.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'nd to out SS oners', 'collection nest egg', 'ion.', 'DELL', '344 72407'

Hard times have returned, but this time Orthodoxy is to blame. David Hearst in Moscow reports

# Christians suffer in Russia

**C**HRIStIAN denomi- nations and their missionaries are again being persecuted in Russia, but this time the discrimination is being inspired and orchestrated by the Russian Orthodox Church rather than the Communist Party.

Provincial laws regulating the activities of "foreign missionaries" are being used to impose a complex and expensive system of accreditation, or licensing by the state. Some regions are threatening to impose what amounts to a tax on worship at 10 times the minimum wage, and non-Orthodox Churches are already finding it difficult to hire halls for prayer meetings. Udmurtia Republic has taken the laws to an extreme: missionaries must pay a \$100 fee each month, they are fined \$1,000 if they hold services outside registered places of worship, and they face a \$2,000 penalty for distributing unsanctioned literature. Religious intolerance is also growing in places where market reforms are most ad-

## Kremlin wins support of opposition MPs for draft budget

**R**USSIA'S embattled government scored a key victory yesterday when parliament, dominated by the Communist and nationalist opposition, was persuaded to approve the 1997 draft budget on its first reading, writes Oleg Scherzov in Moscow.

The prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who was visibly relieved that a threat to Russia's economic stability had been averted, called the decision a triumph of good sense and cooperation. Russian Communists and their allies in the lower house had previously opposed the draft.

Deputies voted by more than 2-1 for the draft. The second and third readings are due to be held on December 25, the day President Boris Yeltsin is expected to make his first visit to the Kremlin since his heart surgery last month. It then goes to the upper house.

Yury Maslyukov, a leading Communist and chairman of the Duma (parliamentary) committee for economic policy, said: "The style of work characterised by confrontation with the executive power does not take us anywhere. We need to change our style." — Reuter.

The Missionary Observer describes the groups as "two arms of an octopus" enveloping the Russian Orthodox heartland. "They take our children to a small Disneyland, a trap of cunning devils," it says.

Mikhail Volkovich, a Russian who runs the House of Maria, said yesterday: "We used never to have these problems... Religion for us is a help in saving drug takers and it's not important whether that religion is Catholic or Orthodox." Lawrence Uzzell, an Orthodox believer at the Keaton Institute, a multi-denominational human rights group in Oxford, said: "I certainly agree that the Western missionaries themselves have a lot to answer for, for their insensitivity in going into a place that has had thousands of years of Christianity. But freedom of conscience is the most fundamental of all human rights. By violating its own constitution in this way, Russia is raising grave doubts about even its desire to become a law-governed state."

Both were savagely criticised recently in an official Orthodox Church publication, the Missionary Observer. The author wrote: "The mission is full of electronic games. Alas, Bruno [Mizolek, the mission's leader] is not the first missionary from abroad who tries to seduce children in such a way. Rock music is playing in the mission and children are doing there what they want. Pedagogical anarchism is a frightening phenomenon and here it flourishes."

Already two Catholic groups have come under attack from the Russian Orthodox hierarchy: Pro Deo et Fratribus runs a mission for children from poor families in the Yaroslavl region; and the House of Maria runs a drug rehabilitation centre. The provincial laws allow local authorities to deny registration to groups practising prophetic witness, or what the legislation calls "promoting disobedience to the state authorities" or "igniting religious dissension". The definition of a missionary is so wide it can include a Roman Catholic parish. For a long time our Churches lived in peace. According to the constitution, all the Churches have equal rights. "But the tenor of recently adopted legislation in provinces openly contradicts the 1993 constitution." The provincial laws allow local authorities to deny registration to groups practising prophetic witness, or what the legislation calls "promoting disobedience to the state authorities" or "igniting religious dissension".

## Ship slams into shops

Martin Walker in Washington

**M**ORE than 100 people were injured when a 763ft freighter rammed a hotel and shopping complex on the New Orleans riverfront at the weekend.

"It just kept coming," said a shopping mall worker, Chris Storey. "It started to shake and we locked out the store window — glass and water and the ceiling just started falling in. People started running out in panic and it just went black inside."

Another witness, Wood Thomas, said: "The ground started shaking like an earthquake and everyone started running out. People were trying to get off the casino boat, jumping into the river."

The Liberian merchant vessel Bright Field, loaded with grain, suffered a fuel pump failure and lost power and steering control as it entered the bend in the Mississippi at New Orleans known as Algiers Point.

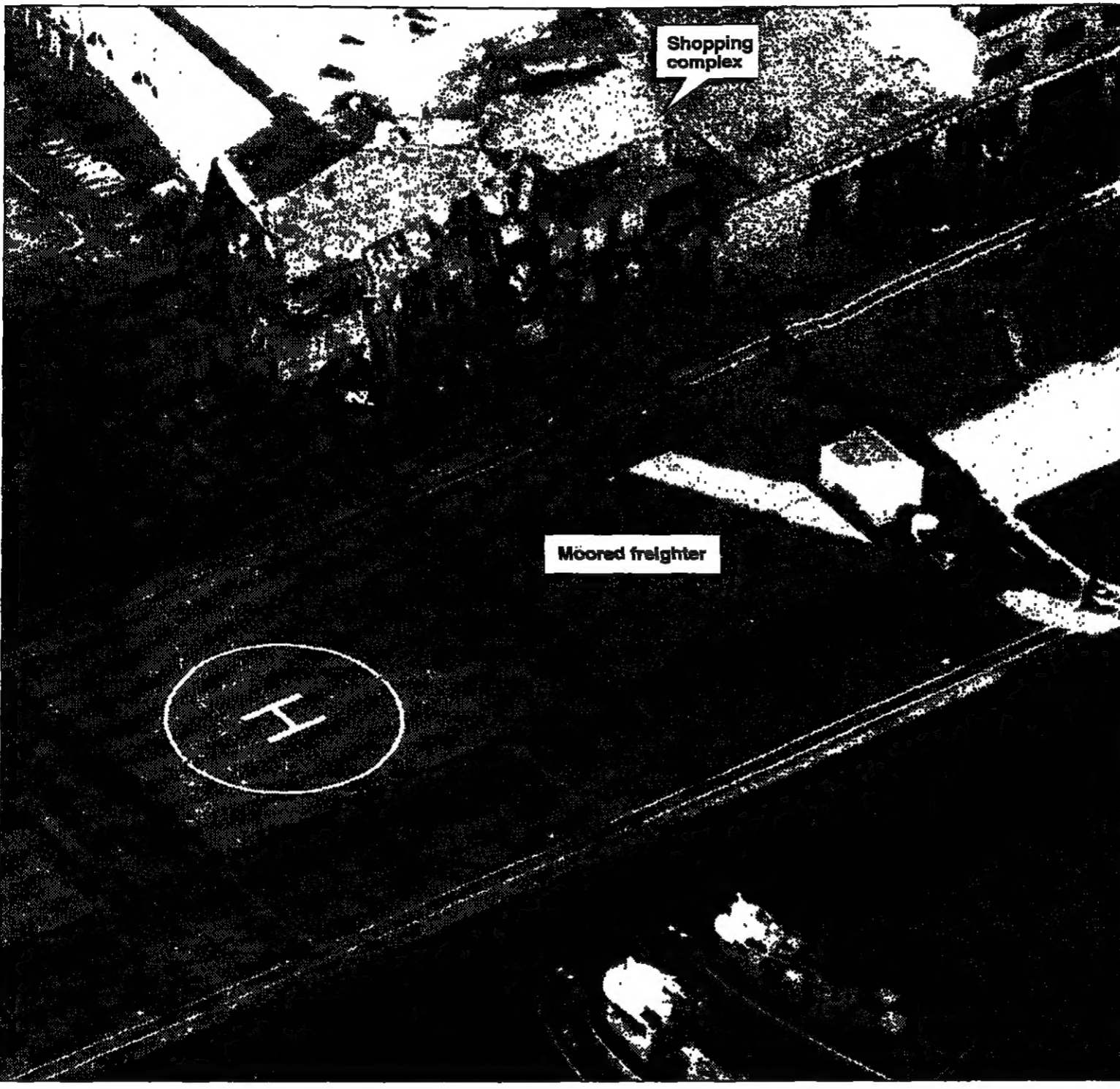
Its sirens blaring, the ship slammed into Riverwalk wharf, plunging its bow into the Hilton hotel, and then skidded to within 70 feet of a moored casino boat.

"It's almost like a pancake, about a football field long," a city councillor, Oliver Thomas, said. "Right where there was a wharf, there is water now."

It was reported at first from the scene that at least six people had died, but this was later denied. Coastguard teams searching the rubble with infrared detectors found no sign of bodies. One of the injured was kept in hospital overnight.

The ship's horn and sirens began sounding nearly three minutes before it hit the wharf, giving people enough warning to start getting away.

Nicole Truitt, who worked at a show store in the com-



The freighter Bright Field, which crashed into a shopping complex and hotel in New Orleans at the weekend

PHOTOGRAPH: JENNIFER ZIDON

plex, said her boss looked out of the window, saw the ship coming, and they all got out in time. A city councillor, Peggy Wilson, said a group of Girl Scouts who had been reported missing were found

safe, but four mentally retarded children could not be found hours after the accident.

Two tugs held the crumpled vessel against the wrecked wharf yesterday, fearing that

any attempt to extricate it could bring down yet more of the shopping complex.

The crash is likely to increase demands for more restrictions on shipping in the Mississippi, where 400

ships a day pass by New Orleans. It is the only place on the Mississippi where traffic lights have been installed to control the river traffic.

"It's the busiest and most treacherous stretch of the

river," said Lieutenant Verne Gifford of the coastguard. "You're talking about the river taking a bend of more than 90 degrees and a current as strong as 9-10 knots pushing water through there."

## Ecuador's clergy sigh to be rid of fraudulent priest

The self-styled bishop of the 'Anglican-Catholic Church' may be stretching Christian tolerance. Phil Gunson in Quito reports

**H**IS business card and car number plate proclaim him to be the Anglican bishop of Quito. But Walter Crespo's bona fides as a man of the cloth — let alone an Anglican bishop — are, to say the least, controversial.

"He's a stone in our shoe," says Bishop Neptali Larrea, president of the IX Province of the United States' Episcopal Church and the real An-

glican bishop of the Ecuadorian capital. "In our mission he presents himself as Anglican, and in Catholic villages, when it is to his advantage, he presents himself as Catholic. I don't know how much longer we can tolerate it. We've named a commission to monitor the situation. Eventually we'll have to sue him." The self-styled Bishop

Crespo, who admits receiving finance from the Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, and says he is also bishop of Tripoli, is unrepentant. Claiming to represent the true Anglican Church of Ecuador, he describes George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury and figurehead of the Anglican communion throughout the world, as "an unrepentant heretic". "We pray for him every week," he says.

Dr Carey, though no doubt unamused, has confined himself to mild reproaches: "Walter Crespo is not, and never has been, a bishop of the Anglican communion."

Mr Crespo runs the so-called Anglican-Catholic Church of Ecuador (ICAE) from an imposing three-storey building in one of Quito's most exclusive districts. Local sources say the building, which doubles as his home and the "Church of St Nicholas", could be worth about 2650,000.

What is known is that Mr Crespo was running an officially sanctioned immigrant advice office, the Hispanic Pastoral Centre, which was closed by the INS in 1991, and that four of his colleagues were jailed for fraud.

"We are the heretic Church," he claims. "They [the Episcopalians] didn't arrive until 1964, and they were illegal until 1983."

His priestly vocation, he says, stems from the late 1970s, after he worked for the United Nations in Geneva. He was elected bishop of Quito by dissident Episcopalians in the US who were angry about the ordination of women.

But his consecration appears never to have taken place, largely owing to a murky incident in South Orange, New Jersey, involving accusations of fraud by the US immigration service (INS).

tion" which "bought false witnesses who were given immigration documents in exchange for immunity".

But the dissident bishops who elected him decided, one says, that his election had been secured by "fraud almost unequalled", and determined to depose him from Holy Orders.

Gordon Charlton, the dean of an Episcopal seminary at which Mr Crespo studied, accused Mr Crespo in 1980 of "a certain irresponsibility when it comes

to financial matters". He said he lent money to Mr Crespo, and "a good part of it has not been repaid".

Bishop Larrea, who says Mr Crespo was also thrown out of an Episcopal Seminary in Ecuador, adds: "He's an opportunist. "Wherever the news is, there he is too."

His closeness to Col Gaddafi (he claims to have acted as a mediator after the Lockerbie bombing) has led to allegations that he is a spy. "They say I'm CIA, KGB — they over-estimate me," Mr Crespo says. "They seem to think I'm some kind of 007, but they are the ones with a licence to kill my good name."

## News in brief

### Belgrade opposition holds biggest march

A RECORD quarter of a million people marched through the Serbian capital Belgrade yesterday, the 28th day of protests against alleged government election fraud and opposition to President Slobodan Milosevic. "It's the biggest so far, it's enormous," a reporter for the independent Belgrade radio R92 said.

Meanwhile, in a breakthrough for the opposition, a court in the southern city of Nis ordered the city's election commission to restore the victory won by the opposition Zvezdara Together coalition in last month's local elections. The government had overturned opposition victories in a number of towns.

The opposition received a further boost when John Kornblum, US assistant secretary of state, held talks in Geneva with a Serbian opposition leader, Vuk Draskovic, and afterwards expressed support for the "democratic process" in Serbia. — Reuter, Belgrade.

### Women and Maoris in cabinet

NEW ZEALAND'S prime minister, Jim Bolger, named four women and three indigenous Maoris to his cabinet yesterday, five days after his conservative National Party formed a coalition with the populist New Zealand First party.

Mr Bolger said the 20-member cabinet, along with six non-cabinet ministers, was a "bold reflection" of the country's diversity. He dropped three ministers to make way for the new blood New Zealand First's leader and former Bolger rival, Winston Peters, was named as deputy prime minister and budget treasurer. — AP, Wellington.

### Threat to exiled prince

CAMBODIA'S co-prime minister Hun Sen threatened yesterday to shoot down any airplane that brought exiled Prince Norodom Sirivudh back to Phnom Penh. He warned that any group that tried to protect the exiled half-brother of King Norodom Sihanouk would face violence.

"I have prepared 45 tanks to attack if any forces are deployed to protect Sirivudh," he said in a speech on national radio. "The fighting will be at Phnom Penh's Pochentong airport."

Prince Sirivudh agreed to go into exile in France after he was arrested last year for allegedly plotting to assassinate Mr Hun Sen. He was sentenced in his absence at a trial which international observers called a travesty. — Agencies, Phnom Penh.

### Uday 'in serious condition'

SADDAM HUSSEIN'S eldest son, Uday, has been operated on four times in the past two days and remains in a serious condition after he was shot last week in Baghdad, an opposition group claimed at the weekend. Its report could not be independently confirmed.

He was wounded in the right side of the neck when gunmen opened fire with heavy machine-guns and threw grenades at his armoured car on Thursday, an Amman-based opposition group, said.

Baghdad newspapers carried a telegram yesterday from the Palestinian Authority president, Yasser Arafat, who congratulated President Saddam on his son's survival and urged Iraq to continue backing the Palestinians. — AP, Cairo.

### Police led to cyanide gas

A FORMER member of the doomsday cult Aum Shinri Kyo, which carried out a sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway in March 1995, has led police to about 1.5kg of sodium cyanide buried in the mountains, Japanese newspapers reported yesterday.

Satoshi Matsushita, arrested earlier this week after 18 months in hiding, helped police find three containers filled with the toxic chemical used to make cyanide gas, the reports said. Police would not confirm the reports.

Meanwhile, the former US vice-president Walter Mondale ended a long political career yesterday when he retired as ambassador to Japan, after three years in the post. — AP, Tokyo.

### Priebke case delayed

AN ITALIAN war crimes case against the former SS captain Erich Priebke met a further obstacle yesterday when a civilian prosecutor said he had no jurisdiction. Italo Ormanni, Rome's deputy public prosecutor, referred the case back to a preliminary examining judge with a recommendation that Italy's highest court, the court of cassation, be asked to decide whether Mr Priebke, aged 88, should be tried in a civilian or military court.

On December 5 a panel of military judges had concluded that a civil court should decide whether Mr Priebke was guilty of complicity in Italy's worst atrocity of the second world war. The ruling brought the case into line with that of the former SS major Karl Hass.

Mr Priebke and Mr Hass are accused of complicity in multiple murders for their participation in the Ardeatine Caves massacre in March 1944, when 335 men and boys were shot in reprisal for a partisan bomb attack.

Mr Priebke's earlier military trial in Rome ended in uproar in August when the court found him guilty but ruled he was no longer liable for punishment. The verdict was later overturned. — Reuter, Rome.

### Deranged man shoots priest

A DERANGED gunman who shot and wounded a priest and a sexton in a Geneva church before surrendering to police yesterday opened fire because the victims "would not leave me in peace", a Swiss newspaper reported.

After the shootings, the gunman called the *SonnagsBluck* weekly on a mobile telephone as heavily armed police sealed off the area. "Hello. This is the former head of the city of Basel's military command. I shot a priest and a sexton a few minutes ago because they would not leave me in peace despite my warning," the weekly quoted him as saying. — Reuter, Geneva.

### Loving mother

THE mother of Kofi Annan has been revealing some of the Ghanaian childhood secrets of the next secretary-general of the United Nations.

Victoria Annan, aged 88, said her son helped her as an informal debt collector for her bakery business in Ghana, for which she paid him a small commission. "He was all the time anxious to find out from me whether the customers had paid. If not he would be chasing them. He would just take my book and go out and take as much as he could get from them," she said.

She also recalled how Kofi, a twin and the third of her five children, was a lively and mischievous child at elementary school "but he always managed to get away with it". — Reuter, Accra.

### Loving son

MOSHE BEERT'S 70-year-old mother died two weeks ago but he is keeping her in his freezer in central Israel until scientists find a way to bring her back to life. Israel Radio reported yesterday.

"It's very hard for me to part from her physically and emotionally. This is her will and ours as well because it's the only way we know to give her a chance to return some day." The court postponed a decision. — Reuter, Jerusalem.

Spence was convicted of the murder of a Catholic barman. To this day he insists he was not responsible, but admits he was involved in other UVF activity. Gusty Spence profile

G2 page 12

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سكا من الامل

# President tells why he ousted 'brazen' Benazir

Phil Goodwin in Islamabad

**P**RESIDENT Farouq Leghari of Pakistan has launched a venomous attack on Benazir Bhutto — the prime minister he ousted in November — in a report to the supreme court which attempts to justify his use of constitutional powers to remove her.

In the 202-page document, which the president says has 7,000 pages of annexes, he alleges that Ms Bhutto and her government:

- Treated the national exchequer as a "kitty for her and her cohorts";
- Bugged the telephones of almost all senior judges and many key politicians;
- Made thousands of illegal government appointments;
- Masterminded "mass executions" in Karachi;
- Used decrees — because a clear government majority was lacking in parliament — to deny the opposition a role in law making.

Ms Bhutto has denied all the allegations. Senior members of her party object that the report has been set before the supreme court without obstacles, while her first two attempts to lodge a petition challenging her removal were dismissed by the court on the grounds that its language was "scandalous and objectionable".

Mr Leghari says the agenda of Ms Bhutto's government was "only personal aggrandisement... personal policies being implemented are not merely violative of law, but are designed to institutionalise corruption, nepotism and the abuse of power."

When he ousted Ms Bhutto on November 5, Mr Leghari cited allegations that her ad-

ministration was behind the extra-judicial killings of hundreds of activists of the opposition party MQM in Karachi.

In his new document, Mr Leghari says Ms Bhutto turned Karachi into "killing fields" in an operation which the government "triggered" and "masterminded". He says hundreds of inquiries were held into the killings, but that no police officer has been prosecuted. The inquiries were, he says, a "charade" to "whitewash the crimes of the law enforcers".

With the full knowledge of Ms Bhutto, he says, Karachi's minorities "were filled with the victims of the... government's crimes against humanity". Her policy for dealing with law and order problems was to "execute them all".

Ullening Ms Bhutto to the Nazi propaganda chief Josef Goebbels, the president accuses her of evading the truth. "Such a blatant disavowal of the truth might be all in a day's work for the late Dr Goebbels, but it is tragic to see a person who has twice held the [office of prime minister] practising the art of the Big Lie perfected by the late luminary of the Nazi regime."

The president calls Ms Bhutto "brazen", with "peculiar beliefs", "not connected to reality" and "unable to understand the concept of an institutionalised responsibility which transcends personal feelings".

"It is tragic to see a prime minister practising the Nazi art of the Big Lie"

He criticises her "complete disdain and lack of interest" in parliament, which he says she attended only rarely. And he casts doubt on her sincerity after the killing of her brother, Murtaza, by police in Karachi in September.

Mr Leghari says Ms Bhutto portrayed herself as rushing to the hospital where her brother died, but she had gone first to her home in the city before arriving at the hospital two hours later.

He says Ms Bhutto attempted to "gain political mileage and squeeze the last drop of public sympathy out of this tragedy... Yet her alleged grief and agony did not prevent her from giving numerous public interviews". He accuses Ms Bhutto of being involved in a cover-up of Murtaza's killing and doing nothing to pursue the killers, who were "readily identifiable".

The president repeats allegations that Ms Bhutto and her family acquired huge properties abroad, including a mansion in Surrey, with illegally obtained money. He says legislative activity was virtually non-existent under her, and that the government plundered funds set aside for the destitute.

Lawyers for Ms Bhutto argue that Mr Leghari lacked proper grounds for removing her. When the previous prime minister, Nawaz Sharif, was removed in 1993, the supreme court restored him, saying a president had to demonstrate a breakdown in the institutions of government.

Mr Leghari's report follows an outpouring of allegations about him from Ms Bhutto, who has described him as stupid, corrupt, and intoxicated with power. Recently she accused him of being behind her brother's murder.

The caretaker government which replaced her is due to announce today a schedule for the general election it has promised to hold on February 8.



Muslim women in Islamic dress (above) attend a conference held to unify a community split by 25 years of conflict and broaden support for the peace settlement, and (below) the end of the war gives children a new taste of freedom

A 25-year war between the Philippine army and Muslim insurgents officially ended in September, but an armed group demanding secession continues to recruit children as young as 15. Owen Bowcott in Cotabato reports on the prospects for a lasting truce

# Cracks appear in fragile peace

**S**ECSSIONIST Muslim rebels in the Philippines are training a new generation of fighters in mountain jungle camps around western Mindanao, despite the peace accord in September with the government of the mainly Catholic country.

In Cotabato, the administrative headquarters of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), children as young as 15 are being recruited for military service by the largest remaining insurgent group.

Three months into the peace process, however, the war which lasted for more than 25 years has stalled to a political stand-off. Sporadic violence is interspersed with waves of kidnappings to raise funds.

On the streets of Cotabato, Philippine army patrols and checkpoints remain in evidence, while Cobra helicopters line the airport perimeter. The province's slogan may be "Land of Peace and Tranquillity" — but Cotabato's mayor entrusts his safety to five heavily armed bodyguards.

Under the terms of the settlement, the largest rebel faction, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), agreed to end its military campaign. Its long-serving leader, Nur Misuari, became

governor of the Armm and chairman of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development.

The breakaway Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), which demands an independent Muslim state in Mindanao and claims to have up to 100,000 armed supporters, rejected the peace settlement and is awaiting separate talks.

"The MILF say they have taken up a defensive position, but they are constantly recruiting people to undergo three-week military training sessions in their mountain camps," said Professor Rufa Casano-Guam of the local Notre Dame University.

"Some of them are as young as 15 years old, at which time they are deemed strong enough to handle AK-47s or grenade launchers. The MILF even have anti-tank guns. Their arms come in from abroad or from corrupt soldiers who sell them army weapons."

The conflict in Mindanao has deep historical roots. Religion reinforces tribal divisions; Islamic merchants from Indonesia converted the inhabitants long before the Spanish conquistadores arrived from Manila in the 1570s.

The Spanish, confronting their traditional religious opponents on the far side of the globe, dubbed them Moors

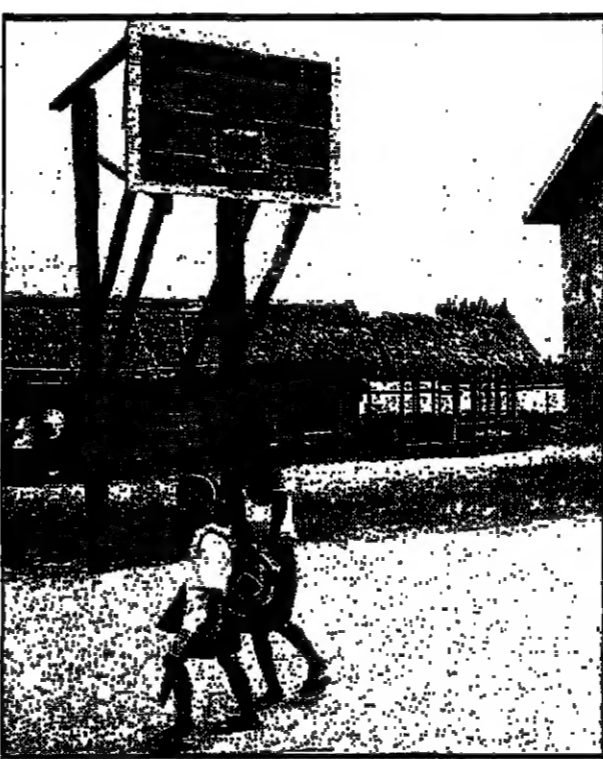
and began a campaign of military subjugation and the introduction of Christian settlers which continued until the Spanish were ejected from the Philippines by the United States in 1898.

The first concessions to the Muslim uprising came in 1976. Talks in Tripoli — attended by the Libyan leader, Muammar Gaddafi, and Imelda Marcos, wife of the then Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos — resulted in an agreement to establish an autonomous region in Mindanao. The settlement did not hold.

The latest deal, negotiated by President Fidel Ramos, appears more likely to succeed. It extends the pragmatic counter-insurgency policies he has adopted elsewhere in the Philippines, such as a succession of 60-day truces by the army in northern Luzon and other islands where it faces the remnants of the Maoist New People's Army formed to oppose Ferdinand Marcos.

Sator Ocampo, a former negotiator on behalf of the NPA, currently on parole in Manila, says there are relatively few clashes in northern Luzon nowadays. "The government's peace programme has been to entice rebels to surrender by offering them cash for handing over weapons. They receive 8,000 pesos (230) for each rifle."

The slow-moving negotiations have been plagued with



arguments between the NPA and the government over the arrest of communist activists. Some of the cash received for handing in rifles has been used to buy more modern weapons.

In Mindanao, the immediate problems are how to demobilise and find jobs for 20,000 former MNLF fighters who have no other skills. The Armm organised a conference in Cotabato earlier this month to try to unify the divided local community and seek international expertise and funding. The partic-

pants included international aid agencies — including Britain's Voluntary Services Overseas — which offered support in development and training. The conference included a Muslim women's congress held to broaden support for the peace settlement.

Guimal Alim, one of the organisers of a recent MILF-backed rally near Cotabato which attracted a million Muslims demanding secession, agrees that there is progress.

"There is still fighting despite the 60-day truce," he said.

"It is premature to say the MNLF has got nothing; Misuari should be given another six months to see how his support is holding up on the ground. But the people are demanding Islamic law and an independent state."

The Philippine government is confident the peace process will hold. "There's already agreement with the MNLF," a spokesman said.

"The MILF may be recruiting and training, but they just want to prove they hold a strong hand. They would also like to take the new approach of talking to the government."

Talks with the MILF were originally scheduled for October or November so we might see discussions after the Christmas holidays. In the meantime, there have been sporadic clashes."

Her policy for dealing with any disorder was to 'execute them all'

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Ullening Ms Bhutto to the Nazi propaganda chief Josef

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**Evangelists  
hiding the truth**  
The Catholic Church is in crisis

CATHOLICISM in England has bizarrely enjoyed something of a honeymoon in the media in recent years. A few high-profile converts, such as the Duchess of Kent, John Gummer and Ann Widdecombe plus a whiff of glamour with rumours of the Princess of Wales and Elizabeth Hurley toying with Rome, have been buttressed by a battalion of highly-vocal media Catholics, such as Paul Johnson, Alice Thomas Ellis, Dr William Oddie and Mary Kenny, who never miss an opportunity to trumpet the virtues of Roman Catholicism over what they see as an intellectually and theologically bankrupt Church of England. As Anglicans have struggled with the issue of women priests, and now struggle with homosexuality and a daunting agenda of internal reforms, Roman Catholicism — under the judicious guidance of Cardinal Basil Hume — has benefited from the spin-off disillusionment. Non-churchgoers are particularly fulsome in their praise. Catholicism matches what they believe a church should be about: authority, uncompromising moral injunctions and guilt.

None of this, of course, has anything more than the most superficial connection with what has been happening in Catholic parish churches all over the country. The pews are emptying — at an accelerating rate: according to the latest edition of the Catholic Directory, 55,000 people left between 1994 and 1995. At the same time, parish priests are disappearing as the numbers of new vocations go into free fall. Those priests who remain with mounting workloads, find themselves caught between two increasingly articulate lobbies: the traditionalists and the liberals. Both are responses to decline, which is set to halve mass attendance in the next decade. Traditionalists argue that this is down to the episcopacy's heretical liberal tendencies; liberals argue that disillusionment with a patriarchal, authoritarian, outdated institution is alienating a whole generation.

Last weekend, the We Are The Church referendum was launched in the UK after it collected 2.5 million signatures in Germany, Austria and Holland in favour of radical reforms such as a married priesthood, women priests and more democracy. The battlelines in the Catholic Church have been drawn up throughout Europe and North America. These conflicts are being kept on hold by the hierarchy, and are rumbling beneath the surface. But they will not be resolved under the ageing John Paul II and represent a daunting agenda for the next Pope as the lobby groups grow increasingly well-organised.

There are other reasons for Catholicism's decline in this country, which arguably are even further beyond the capacity of the Church to tackle. Being a Catholic has always been as much a way of life as a personal conviction; the parish club and church were at the hub of the Irish immigrant communities who have historically formed such a large part of the Catholic Church in the UK. No longer. The most dramatic drop in mass attendance has been in those traditional bastions of Irish immigration — Liverpool and lowland Scotland. The former is at the bottom of the diocesan mass attendance league with barely a fifth of baptised Catholics making it to the obligatory Sunday service, while, in Scotland the decline accelerated from one per cent 1984-90 to 13 per cent 1990-94.

This is an eloquent reflection of the fragmentation of these communities; geographical and social mobility accompanied by Anglicisation are playing their part. Another contributory factor must be a sharp decline in the traditional respect of rank-and-file Catholics for the priesthood. This autumn has seen their prestige hit by two devastating scandals: Bishop Roddy Wright, who ran off with a divorcee, and the conviction of the Durham priest, Adrian McLeish, for abusing four boys and assembling a vast collection of Internet paedophilia. But beyond these explanations, lie questions — for non-believers as much as believers — about the reluctance of individuals in our privatised culture to belong to the institutions which used to frame civil society, be they churches, trade unions or political parties. Society may have become more secular but the Church is not the only institution facing challenges to its authority.

**A poverty audit**

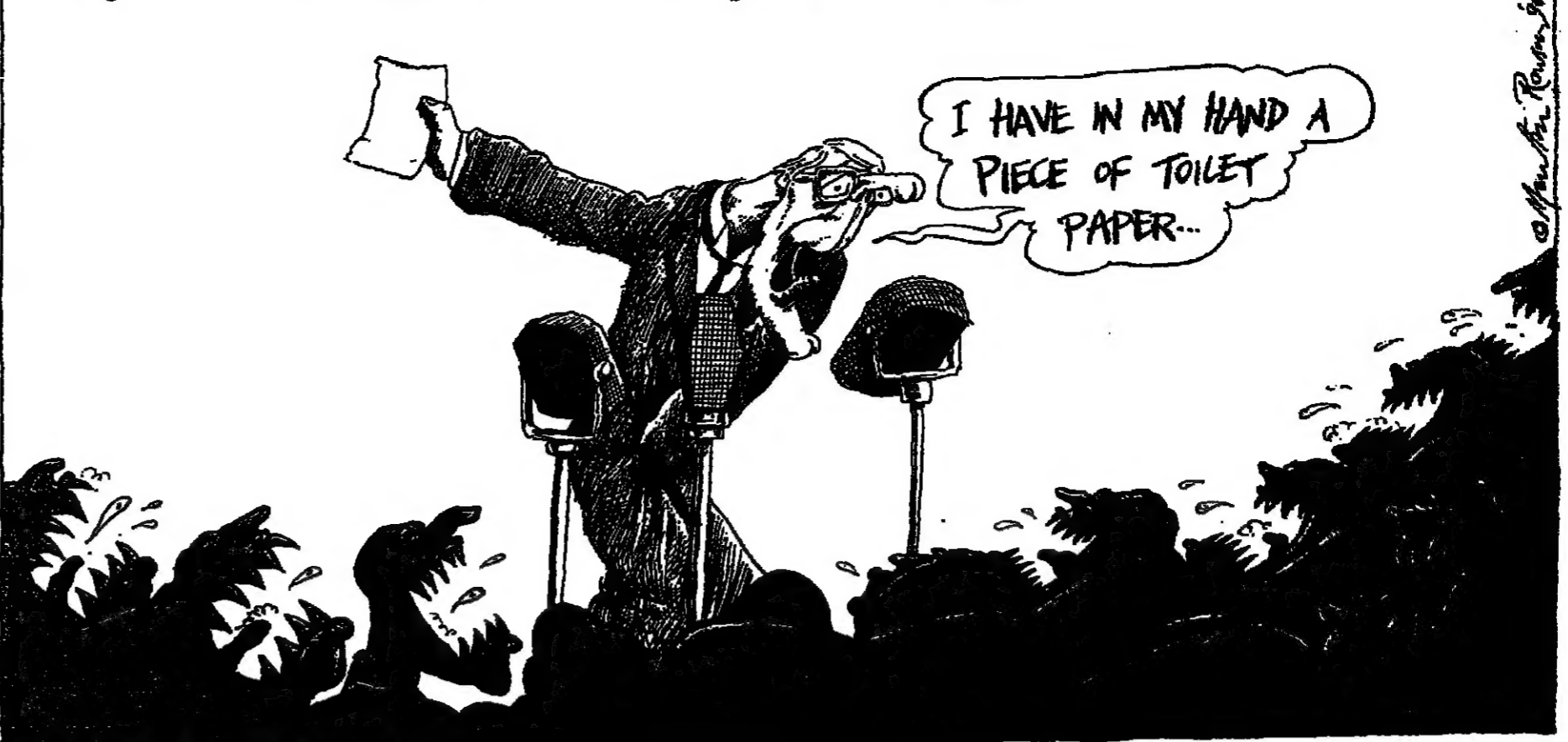
Welfare-to-work bridges are not cheap

ROY HATTERSLEY, the self-appointed Keeper of the Labour Conscience, ought to be pleased. His call for more Labour talk about poverty, inequality and homelessness and less about middle-income concerns, such as negative equity, has been answered: the first of a planned series of Labour reports on poverty was published yesterday. This one only looks back to the last general election but paints a grim picture of the rise in income support claimants. They now exceed the entire population of Scotland with an astounding 865 new people claiming benefits every working day over the four years ending in February. Facts are important but so are solutions.

Labour is right to insist that the long-term answer must be more subtle than just increasing welfare payments. All three main parties now recite the latest social security mantra: moving from welfare to work. And rightly so. We do need less dependency. It is wrong to consign such huge numbers to a benefits scrapheap. We should have better bridges between welfare and work. Even the Tories have been ready to steal some ideas from Labour's National Commission on Social Justice introducing incentives to employers to take on long-term unemployed people and new in-work benefits to persuade the unemployed to take up work. Family credit, designed to help children in low-paid families, has now become available to childless couples and single people.

Labour has prepared separate programmes for 18 to 25-year-olds and the long-term unemployed. Important improvements on current government schemes are the emphasis on education and training, which research shows is the key to obtaining and holding on to work, and the aim of offering socially useful jobs (home insulation, social care) rather than mere make-work. Pilot studies in Glasgow have demonstrated the feasibility of this last ambition. As the Scandinavians and Australians have demonstrated, welfare-to-work works but is not a cheap option. Meaningful work requires genuine investment. It must also not be an excuse for ignoring urgently needed social security reforms.

Mr Major returns in triumph into the welcoming arms of his party...



**Letters to the Editor**

**Ongo and Oli get a life**

AFTER 29 years as the butt of jokes by virtue of my name, Leslie Dorko, I decided to change it to Ongo Sleszehammer (Letters, December 7, 9, 12, 13). My rationale was "let's see how many cope with something as ludicrous as it is meaningless." Astonishingly, the reaction has been totally positive and, far from finding my new name risible, people are fascinated. Most ask me if it is Scandinavian but, even though I explain it is a nonsense name, they still show huge interest. Ongo Sleszehammer, 30 Henley Drive, Highworth, Wilts SN6 7JU.

BEFORE terminating our enjoyment of exotic names, you might include a double-barrelled entry. In the second world war, I came across one Captain Pipe-Coffin, not a name easily lived down, but I hope he did so. G H Mellor, 17 Wilnot Street, Heazor, Derbyshire.

THESE really was an English composer called Olinthus Rockaberry and he did not live in Knotty Ash. Here in Lancashire, only a generation ago, names had a certain ring: Agnes Clegg, Mildred Ackers and Minnie Jelly were real. Harry Dixon, 1 Kenway, Rainford, St Helens WA11 8AX.

**Old recipe**

GIVEN the public disenchantment with Westminster politicians (Leader, December 12), may I suggest two remedies from practices in the ancient world to palliate faults in the system.

In Sparta, a panel of five ephors was elected to oversee the constitutional and personal behaviour of the kings and other office-bearers. Why should we not elect a similar body, extracted as Parliament to oversee the behaviour of MPs?

In Rome, the evidence of slaves was admissible in court only if it had been obtained under torture. Wouldn't it also have Attkin, Hamilton, Waldegrave, Willetts, et al, literally "grilled" about their conduct. Charles Blakely, 11 Braidwood Road, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 7AL.

**This unhappy union**

THE TUC's John Monks is seeking to drag the trade unions and the rest of us into the swirling euro rapids (Why we need Europe, December 13). As we attempt to avoid the rocks marked "cutting services and jobs for competitiveness" and "there is no alternative", we are told to clutch at a straw lifebelt emblazoned "employment chapter".

Alas, the free market reality is more accurately portrayed by the Institute of Directors. They are clear that "social policy should be determined by reference to economic competitiveness rather than outdated concepts of labour market protectionism."

Monks is right that our future lies in Europe but wrong about the need to "adjust to the euro". Europe's end goals must be changed to protect its own economies, provide its citizens with long-term security and set an example for the rest of the world's blocs on how to do the same. Colin Hines, 11 Park House Gardens, Twickenham, Middx TW1 2DF.

IT IS unworthy of a prominent trade unionist to back up his support for a single currency by the tactics of fear by stating that "if sterling devalued against the

euro, then some action might be taken by other states against British exports to the single market". This is quite simply untrue.

As long as Britain remains an EU member state, the other members must abide by the provisions on free trade set out in Articles 30-36 of the Treaty of Rome. These rules expressly prohibit any quantitative restrictions on trade within the EU except for closely-defined public policy reasons. Until these articles are changed, this will remain the rule even after the single currency comes in. Walter Cairns, Evenshams Hall, 826 Wilmshole Road, Manchester M20 8RP.

JOHN Monks ducks the first stage of a single currency by suggesting a task force to examine the effects on jobs. Has he given any consideration as to membership of such a body?

The effects of a single currency on the British economy is replete with widely differing viewpoints. Contrary to Mr Monks's assertion of the ignorance of the debate, there is a surfeit of opposing academic and media output on this most contentious matter, causing the make-up of any

such group to be itself a subject of further discussion. Bill Jackson, 2 William Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QD.

BEHIND John Monks's ill-disguised, shameless, self-congratulatory peer-group solidarity, Trust us, he is saying, we the bureaucrats, functionaries, bankers, committee members, task-forcers, lobbyists: give us more power and we will deliver. No evidence is offered; his response to criticism is abuse.

Forty years ago, one of the "fathers" of the European Union, Jean Monnet, who never sought any democratic mandate, was given a grilling over his European dreams by Hugh Gaitskell. An annoyed Monnet said, "But you must have faith" to which Gaitskell replied, "I don't believe in faith, I believe in reason, and you haven't given me any."

It seems that the TUC is no longer interested in reason, only bureaucratic survival, while the considerable political culture of Brussels undoubtedly offers. Chris Jones, 20 Antoine Gate, St Albans, Herts.

**How to strengthen some weak links in the food chain**

YOUR leader (Protect our food chain, December 13) draws attention to a matter that has been of concern to the Royal Society of Health for some time — the urgent need to separate the interests of the consumers of food products from those of producers, processors and distributors, and the introduction of a mandatory programme of training and/or certification for food handlers.

Food poisoning is the classic example of a wholly preventable disease. We currently run accreditation schemes designed to improve standards in many different parts of the food chain, provide one of the Government's mandatory training courses for meat inspectors, and are collaborating with major companies in the food industry in the development of voluntary standards for the accreditation of, for example, food packaging and transportation.

Our experience has convinced us that mandatory certification of food handlers is both practicable and desirable, and need not be financially burdensome. Education

and training is the key but we need the legislative tools, the necessary resources and the political will to do it. Gavin Maxwell, Chairman of Council, The Royal Society of Health, 35a St George's Drive, London SW1V 4BH.

THE Advisory Committee on Novel Foods should also have free range from the Government, given that the genetically-engineered Roundup Ready soybean (herbicide-resistant so you can spray it as much as you like) will not be separated from the conventionally-grown bean and will be eaten in literally hundreds of products.

German consumers have persuaded major food producers, such as Danone, to use the Monsanto genetic bean, so why can't we? According to Prof John Fagan (Just soy stories, Weekend, November 30) it is perfectly feasible to separate the beans. According to the Monsanto Soybean Information Centre, it is not, for "economic" reasons. Josephine Slater, 15 Ballbrook Lane, Bath BA1 7AH.

**A Country Diary**

THURXTON, NORFOLK: Two hundred years ago, it was common in December to see Norfolk poultryers driving their turkeys on foot to the London markets like Smithfield. Last century, however, technology began to intervene in that seasonal ritual. The birds, as many as seven tonnes of them and already roughly plucked, were transported by steam engine, which made the round trip to London in only seven days. Following the war, the business changed out of all recognition. Gone were the slow journeys to the capital. Gone indeed were most of the birds that created the industry in the first place — the beautiful Norfolk Black and Bronze turkeys — although at Rookery Farm, at Thurston, one is still permitted a glimpse of the old practices. The owners have been rearing turkeys for generations and retain some of the oldest genetic stock in Britain, which closely resembles the wild American species. These are tall, broad-chested birds with rich,

glossy black plumage, full wattles and caruncles flushed a deep red. A good sing, as is known, can be over 20lb, which seems a mere chick compared with the turkeys reared under factory-farm conditions. While they're unable to fly or to breed naturally, indeed barely able to move, these monsters can reach 1000.

Yet the differences are not only size, health and mobility. At Thurston, for instance, there are no regular doses of antibiotics. The birds never have their beaks hacked down to a blunt scoop capable only of shovelling up the feed. Nor do animal proteins (such as the remains of old turkey carcasses) find their way back into the food trays. All they eat at Thurston are beans and corn grown specifically for them on the farm. There is one final key difference between a factory bird and an organically reared, free-range turkey, but this is something you'd only discover during Christmas lunch itself. MARK COCKER



**Party girls**

AM I alone in my confusion over the claim that the Spice Girls' No 1 hit Wannabe is an "anthem to Thatcherite meritocratic aspiration" (Meat John Major's last hope, December 13)? I thought "zigzag" was a reference to getting laid.

Perhaps their latest single, Two Become One is a coded plea on Major's behalf for Tory unity over Europe. Chris Crowe, Girton College, Cambridge CB3 0JG.

SHOULD we be surprised that Michael Portillo is a secret fan of the Spice Girls? Absolutely not.

The Spice Girls are self-confessed "good-time girls, who freely advise on how to party. Geri has appeared topless in the Sun and, collectively, they recommend the use of such phrases as "Get 'em out for the last time" and "Get your assets" and "What's your naughty bit like?"

No wonder Tory ministers are admirers. John Baker, 6 Bayswater Road, Bristol BS7 0BN.

**Children in need**

DESPITE many desirable changes in fostering (Letters, December 14), there has been a real growth in multiple placements with children from different families being placed together. In many ways, a small children's home has been created, but the carers do not have the same resources to cope. One result is that the more "difficult" child is moved to yet another placement.

If a private or voluntary fostering agency has approved the parents, this may mean that they are caring for children from several different local authorities, at times many miles from their home area. This has real implications for continuing contact with parents, and even their eventual return home. An additional concern is the impact of the high turnover of social workers upon these children. Vincent Johnson, 8 Orchard Road, Ertlington, Birmingham B24 9JL.

**Rifkind's last stand on the old frontier**

**Endpiece**

**Roy Hattersley**

SPAKING in last week's European debate, Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind could not have been more categorical about one aspect of his party's policy. "We have not the slightest intention," he said, "of conceding one inch in regard to the right of this Government and this Parliament to control frontiers." He then went on to justify the robust defence of what he, no doubt, described as the Royal Throne of Kings had declined. Subconsciously, Rifkind was probably conceding that his position was based on insularity not reason. For whilst the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland — a single island with a common travel area — are surrounded by water, the Foreign Secretary's argument did not hold it.

He either forgot or ignored that the only frontier control that the European Union wants to relax is that which

regulates movement between member states. If our partners operate what Rifkind calls "a sensible approach for them", we must assume that they are successful in excluding or apprehending illegal immigrants. And if (let us say) France, is able to exclude foreign nationals with no right to entry or settlement, there is no danger of such undesirable popping under the Channel on the Shetland — unless we suspect that the French are forcing, encouraging or allowing them to come to Britain. And not even Teddy Taylor has accused the Frogs of anything as daft as that.

As long as member nations are, in their different ways, operating adequate immigration control, no one country has anything to lose by closing the border posts which separate them from the rest of the Union. So what is the real reason for Britain's emotional commitment to insisting that passengers on planes from Frankfurt, Brussels and Copenhagen, stand in long queues at Heathrow airport while immigration officials confirm that they were not allowed into the Union by the

incompetence or malice of funny foreigners?

Part of the reason is undoubtedly the knowledge that other European countries have immigration laws which it would be embarrassing to compare with ours. If one of my constituents goes to work in Spain or Luxembourg, his Kashmiri wife (as a spouse of a Union citizen) has an automatic right to join him. If the same man stays in Birmingham, his wife will only be allowed into Britain if the couple pass a series of arcane rules which are designed to ensure that they fail. Think of it, a British citizen with rights abroad which he does not enjoy at home. It is as if we had gone to war because the Spaniards refused to cut off Jenkins's ear.

The implicit racism behind our obsession with running our own immigration system is deplorable enough. But equaler is compounded by absurdity. Border controls are thought by the Little Englanders to be an essential manifestation of nationhood. The passport (with the assertion that her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State requests and requires the bearer to be

afforded protection) may have been reduced in size, coloured claret and made to open from the wrong end. But it still bears the royal cypher — the Tate & Lyles which our war-wants officers wore on their sleeves when we won two world wars.

So we intend to go on making the countries which capitulated, or were defeated, their own inadequate alternatives when they arrive at our borders. It is one of the few powers over them which we have left. No wonder Malcolm Rifkind invented an ingenious explanation rather than endorse the nonsense in the minds of his backbenchers.

Encouraging the Europhobes in their prejudices will do this frightened government no good in the end. Time after time, John Major has paid the Danegeld — often trying to make his position more respectable by saying that his nervous reluctance to be a real European is shared by the Danes. A century he gives them a cent yard — adding that they prefer the imperial measure to its continental alternative.

Yet if he — and the ministers who support him — were brave enough to argue the real case for integration, their public esteem and general credibility will be immensely increased even in this tight-little, right-little island.

Two hundred years ago, an English admiral could boast about the French, "I do not say they will not come, I only say they will not come by sea". I spent eight years of Punch lunches sitting under a cartoon of Winston Churchill looking out from the white cliffs of Dover and telling the world, "Very well, then, Alone." I think that I am at least as moved by those memories as is any member of the Tory Bruges group. But as Churchill also said, even though the dogs bark, the caravan moves on.

Opposing the creation of a single internal frontier is no more consistent with the spirit of Europe than standing up against a common external tariff. Until John Major and Malcolm Rifkind have the courage to say so, half of their backbenchers will not begin to learn what the Union is really about.



Bamyan Diary Jonathan Steele

WE had to build our own bridge on the road to Bamyan, or at least repair the shaky pontoon affair we encountered over one strip of white-water rapids.

Even Amir Shah (King of Kings), Kabul's best taxi-driver, had had qualms about taking his ancient yellow Toyota into the Hindu Kush where high-altitude off-roads often hesitate to tread.

It is a Bazzara, one of Afghanistan's smaller minorities, and when we expressed a wish to penetrate his ancestral mountain fastness he could not resist.

There are risks in a massive Labour victory that result party from the Tories' present divisions. Labour will choose between a leaderless party that seems to have become ungovernable, and an Opposition which is led by Tony Blair as if it were already in government.

THE BUDDHAS were carved in the 2nd century AD at the command of Kanishka, ruler of the Kushan empire which held sway from the Ganges to the Gobi Desert.

THE 1997 New York City St Patrick's Day Parade marks the 150th anniversary of the potato famine — which killed 1.5 million people and forced another 2.5 million to leave Ireland for America, England, Canada and elsewhere.

How to keep the new right out in the cold

Commentary John Gray

LABOUR landslide at the coming election is no longer a remote possibility. Since the events of the past two weeks it has become a likelihood.

Yet there are risks in a massive Labour victory that result party from the Tories' present divisions. Labour will choose between a leaderless party that seems to have become ungovernable, and an Opposition which is led by Tony Blair as if it were already in government.

It is a chaos of factions and rancorous groupuscules. To speculate on who will lead this rag-tag army after the election is pointless. There are too many uncertainties.

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It is just as likely that the shock of defeat and the electoral potential of the European question will work to unify them. Whatever happens they will relentlessly oppose Scottish devolution and reform of the House of Lords.

It is a chaos of factions and rancorous groupuscules. To speculate on who will lead this rag-tag army after the election is pointless. There are too many uncertainties.

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PR is already being cited as an argument against reform. Yet our first-past-the-post system can be reformed to enfranchise the centre ground without risking the uncertainties that PR can bring.

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not create different categories of MPs. Even ballot papers would be almost unchanged. Yet adopting either system for elections to the House of Commons could transform British politics.

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God moves in a mysterious way in court



Paul Foot

ANN WIDDECOMBE, Home Office Minister, is a doughty champion of the rights of the unborn child, but how do unborn children get on in the prisons for which she is responsible?

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on: "It may well be that she has had a recent bleed from a stomach ulcer which is not being investigated. . . . She is retching at night which, combined with the dehydration, has led to ketones in her urine, a sign of serious danger to the pregnancy. . . . She needs an urgent repeat test of the ketones which, if they are still present, warrant urgent admission to hospital."

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John L. Lahey explains why he will use the St Patrick's Day parade in New York to highlight Britain's culpability in the Irish famine that led to mass death and emigration.

A hunger for justice

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During these years, however, Ireland produced ample food that could have been used to reduce substantially the number of Irish who starved to death. Indeed, the British government in control of Ireland chose to export this abundant food supply to England and other countries.

ing of this bill not by dealing with the facts of history, but instead by attacking Governor Pataki for allegedly pandering to Irish-American voters and for claiming inaccurately that he had likened the famine to the Holocaust.

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Scenario for survival

Michael Kuhn urges culture ministers meeting in Brussels today to back a plan that could dramatically save European cinema

EUROPE has a rich heritage in the world of the cinema, but the small share of European films in the world market does not do this heritage justice.

Today the Hollywood majors have established a system that ensures continuous production while reducing risk. They invest in slates of films (instead of one-off projects as is too often the case in Europe) and, crucially, they control their own distribution.

Without measures to encourage European companies to invest in slates of films, a proper European distribution network, so crucial to sustained success in the film industry, is not viable.

Today it can count on political support to ensure it gets market access all over the globe. Unfortunately, Europe still fails to realise the significance of audio-visual productions in industrial as well as cultural terms.

Why bother? She'll probably die anyway

Form for ACTIONAID with checkboxes for donation options and contact information.

John L. Lahey

The Right Reverend Gerald Moverley

A pragmatic sense of faith



On the way up... Moverley (centre), then auxiliary Bishop of Leeds, and Basil Home attend Mass at York racecourse

BISHOP Gerald Moverley, who has died aged 74 within six months of retiring due to ill health from his South Yorkshire and Midlands Catholic diocese of Hallam, was a gentle, pastoral figure who made national headlines when he encountered the bitter enmities of Northern Ireland.

Catholic Irish community which for years had provided responsible and imaginative leaders of civic life. He encountered little local opposition to his decision that Stagg, the former commander of an IRA unit in Coventry, was the author of his firm stance in Wakefield maximum security jail and that his use of a hunger strike to bring pressure to bear on the authorities was wrong.

lam followed in 1980. Dr Moverley's 15 years in the job were largely uneventful although he bore the brunt of Hillsborough, which included the nervous collapse of a talented local priest, who had worked ceaselessly both at the disaster and afterwards with relatives.

A B Hargreaves

Peak performances and sharp opinions

FROM British rock-climbing's heroic age in the 1930s, the personality of A B Hargreaves, who has died aged 92, thrusts out with as vigorous a claim on our attention as those of the great leaders in whose revolutionary activities on Welsh or Cumbrian cliffs he was involved.

low, and finally came to rest wedged in a crack just above the scree after falling over 70 feet, his sole injury a broken toe. A B was not so lucky. The heap of rock by which he arrested Kirkus's fall had torn and burnt his hands to the bone, his nose was broken as the shock of holding the rope pulled him into the crack. But he still managed to joke steadily with his fallen leader down at the doctor's surgery in Coniston as his burns were bathed in carbolic acid and scrubbed with a toothbrush.

repeat ascents of extraordinary new climbs. And on the ferocious sandstone outcrop of Helsby near Chester, he had himself been instrumental in forcing the technical pace. But in 1931 he moved to the Lake District as a company secretary and stayed there until his retirement. The Lake District then was a climbing backwater, the most significant exploration taking place primarily in Wales. Although A B's climbing became more sporadic by the end of the 1930s, his contact with the mountaineering community remained intact. He was gregarious, combative, and loved to involve himself in the clubs he had joined in the 1920s.

then a chap might be inhibited in stripping off and showering when down from a vigorous day on the hill. When I voiced my disbelief to Jack Longland, he chuckled and told me that he would talk the "horrible little man" round. And he did, the "horrible little man" not really fitting the description at all.

To visit A B was an education. Exceptionally modest and self-effacing, he hated praise being bestowed on him but lavished it on friends, on the fine climbers who had put well-founded trust in him. He was a difficult and cantankerous character who had an odd genius for friendship, and a range of tastes which included opera and politics. He was sharp, challenging company. My abiding memory of him is of a frail, blind and wet man of 90 or so crossing a tony Ulverston street in a wild blast of wind which came tumbling off the fells. He bested, coat flailing, then hurled himself forward on his two sticks, jabbing across the asphalt towards his lunchtime pub with as fierce a resolution as any ice-axed mountaineer ever summoned. He bore 30 years ago as a furious, high-coloured little man in a cricketer's sweater roundly berating my generation for wishing to grant to women — he belittled the word with the loudest disapprobation — admission not only to membership of the then all-male Climbers Club, but also to their huts.

Jim Perrin Alan (A B) Hargreaves, climber, born April 22, 1904, died November 14, 1995

Faron Young

The singing sheriff

FARON YOUNG, who has committed suicide aged 64, apparently in a state of depression about his poor health, was one of the generation of American country singers who entered the 1950s as legates of the honky tonk sound of Hank Williams. Dark and saturnine, with the look of a Southern Beal Rathbone, he made his name not only as an extremely bankable recording artist but as a pillar of the country music business community.

mellow — some would say bland — crooning approach. In 1961 he boosted the song-writing career of the young Willie Nelson with a recording of his composition Hello Walls which not only topped the country chart but broke into the pop top 20. His reliable run of hits was undisturbed by his move to a new record label, Mercury, in 1963.

Jim Perrin Faron Young, country singer, born February 25, 1932, died December 10, 1995



Faron Young... a pillar of the country music business community, hitmaker and writer of talk Tall

the 1960s, B-feature Westerns such as Hidden Guns, which gave him his sobriquet 'the Singing Sheriff', or country music exploitation vehicles such as Country Music Holiday and Nashville Rebel. Later he was familiar to TV audiences for his ads for BC Headache Power.

ager Billy Deaton and singer Billy Grammer, and a publishing company, Vandore Music, handle his own and others' material. Most intriguingly, he published monthly trade paper for the Nashville country music industry, Music City News, for more than 30 years later, it is the found in every office and waiting-room on Music Row.

The partnership played a crucial part in Kirkus's development into the most productive explorer of ways to rock faces which set standards of difficulty and seriousness rarely, if ever, hitherto achieved in Britain. As Kirkus's cousin, Wilfrid Noyce observed: "Hargreaves knew perfectly the way of coaching a brilliant leader."



Based in Liverpool A B had been involved in the consolidation of the advances made in rock-climbing through his elective role. His resistance, as I recall, was based not only on our unmanly but also on the notion that if women were present,

the most promising amongst them a gangling, awkward teenager, Colin Kirkus, then a Liverpool insurance clerk. He and A B joined forces. Other people in the Climbers Club, A B recalled, seemed to think that the two men were slightly mad, and they were dubbed the "Suicide Club" after their first climb, the Holly Tree Wall in nails on a wet day.

Georg Scheuer

GEORG Scheuer, who has died aged 80, played a key post-war role as a journalistic intermediary between France and Germany. Lifelong socialist, he was by then the Paris correspondent of Austria's Arbeiter Zeitung. As a writer on European politics, he was also the author of books on the Italian dictator, Benito Mussolini's pre-war world war phase as a socialist, and on his contemporary legacy.

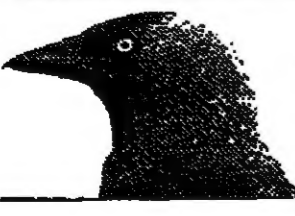
Moscow show trials, that he joined the small Trotskyite left opposition. In 1936 he was arrested and sentenced to five years in prison for duplicating and distributing political pamphlets. He was released in February 1938 in a general amnesty for political prisoners a few weeks before Hitler marched into Austria. He escaped, spent the war working in the French resistance and narrowly escaping arrest. He described his experiences in his autobiography Nur Narren fuhrer. Nichts (Only Fools have no Fear).

Birthdays

Benny Andersson, pop singer and composer, 50; Michael Blackburn, chief executive, Halifax Building Society, 55; Quentin Blake, author, 62; Norman Blamey, painter, 82; Arthur C Clarke, science fiction writer, marine explorer, 75; Myrella Cohen QC, circuit judge, 65; Peter Cole, professor of journalism, University of Central Lancashire, 51; Prof Bernard Crick, historian, biographer, 67; Peter Dickinson, author, 69; Joel Garner, cricketer, 44; Pat van den Bergh, footballer, 36; Heather Hallatt, QC, vice-chair, the Bar Council, 47; Tony Hicks, rock guitarist, 51; John Kirwan, rugby player, 32; Jacqui Lait, Conservative Whip, 49; Stephanie Lawrence, singer, actress, 43; Trevor Pinnock, harpsichordist and conductor, 50; Sir Victor Pritchett, author and critic, 96; Rodion Sachedin, composer, 64; Graham Stevenson, cricketer, 41; Jacqueline

Thwaites, hel of the Inch-bald Schools of Design and Fine Arts, 65; Iv Ullmann, actress, 68; Iain Gair, Sir Roger, 68; chief of the General Staff, 1.

Jackdaw



HE was on his way home to Siberia from the front line. He was in Moscow with his ticket already in his pocket. At the station he went to the wooden bar to down a glass of vodka. The woman behind the counter gave him a curious and affectionate look as she handed him a battered sandwich to eat with his drink. "Don't you disappear now," she said. "Come back again." "What for?" he asked. "You look like my husband," she answered quietly. "He was killed right at the beginning of the war."

an hour or two. Then he threw away his ticket and went back to the barmaid. And that was how he came to live in Moscow. She bore him three daughters and they brought him little but sorrow. From Leo Razgon's memoirs of years as a USSR Gulag prisoner in History Today. Razgon later discovered that in the 1930s Niyazov had shot hundreds, even thousands, of Stalin's victims on the place they called the Distant Hill.

M&M's as a race cannot survive long in the intense theatre of competition that is the modern candy world. Occasionally I will get a mutation, a candy that is misshapen, or pointed, or flatter than the rest. Almost invariably this proves to be a weakness, but very rarely, it gives extra strength. In this way, the species continues to adapt to its environment. When I reach the end of the pack, I am left with one M&M, the strongest of the herd. Since it would make no sense to eat this one, I pack it neatly in an envelope and send it to M&M Mars, A Division of Mars, Inc. Hackettstown, NJ 07840-1503 USA, along with a card reading, "Please use this M&M for breeding purposes." This week they wrote back to thank me, and sent me a coupon for a free 1/2 pound bag of plain M&M's. I consider this grant money. I have set aside the weekend for a grand tournament. We will discover the True Champion. There can be only one. Courtesy Robert Goulding — he found it on a mailing list from an evolutionary biologist.

AGAINST a wall in a temporary screening room in rural Louisiana, raw footage from Adrian Lyne's newly-filmed version of Nabokov's controversial 1938 novel, Lolita, about a middle-aged man in love with a 12-year-old "nymphet" — the term coined in the novel by Nabokov's paedophile anti-hero, Humbert Humbert, to denote girls "between the age limits of 9 and 14" who possess "certain mysterious characteristics, the fee grace, the elusive, shifty, soul-shattering, insidious charm." The rough-cut assemblage, after introducing Humbert, played by Jeremy Irons, and his child enchantress, chimaxes in the bedroom. There, Lolita is seated on Humbert's reclining form, facing away from him, wearing only a pajama top. She is reading from the funny papers, biting her lip and giggling. It gradually becomes evident that she is also making love. Soon Lolita has dropped the comics and her pajama top. Her hair and forehead are beaded with sweat. Her huddling breasts, bare belly, and shoulders heave and glisten. Lyne's voice, off-camera, says: "Brilliant. Move your ass more. Fuck, it's good. It's beautiful. Arch your back a bit darling. Fucking great!"

Hang around behind the set... are two local farmers in dungarees and dirty work shirts. What do they know about the movie? "Nothing," one man says. Do they know it's about a 40-year-old man who's in love with a 12-year-old girl? "No," says the other, brightening visibly. "Is it dirty?" Charles Fleming does a demolition job on the new production in Vanity Fair.

Bah! Humbug 57 ELM STREET BETTLEHEM, PA 11.51PM, DECEMBER 24 We're here too late! It's been here. Mulder, I hope you know what you're doing. Look, Scully, just like the other homes: Douglas's fur, truncated, mounted, transformed into a shrine; halls decked with

Down and dirty Vanity Fair

What are you talking about? Ancient mythology tells of an obese humanoid entity who could travel at great speed in a craft powered by antlered servants. Once each year, near the winter solstice, this creature is said to descend from the heavens to reward its followers and punish disobedients with jagged chunks of anthracite. But that's a legend, Mulder — a story told by parents to frighten children. Surely you don't believe it? Something was here tonight, Scully. Check out the bite marks on this gingerbread man... It gorged itself, Scully. It fed with remorse... But if this thing does exist, how did it get in? The doors and windows were locked. There's no sign of forced entry. Unless I miss my guess, it came through the fireplace. Wait a minute, Mulder. If you're saying some huge creature landed on the roof and came down this chimney, you're crazy. The flue is barely six inches wide. Nothing could get down. But what if it could alter its shape, move in all directions at once?

Advertisement for 'Scully's Tail' featuring a cartoon illustration of a man's tail and promotional text. The text includes 'Scully's Tail comes to you', 'You mean like a bowl full of jelly?', and 'I'm sorry, Mulder, but you're asking me to disregard the big of physics'. It also provides contact information for 'You can E-mail us, we're jackdaw@guardian.co.uk' and 'The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER'.



**ELECTION BATTLEGROUND/ Developing nations suspicious of the WTO's agenda**

**Dream club that costs the earth**

Larry Elliott

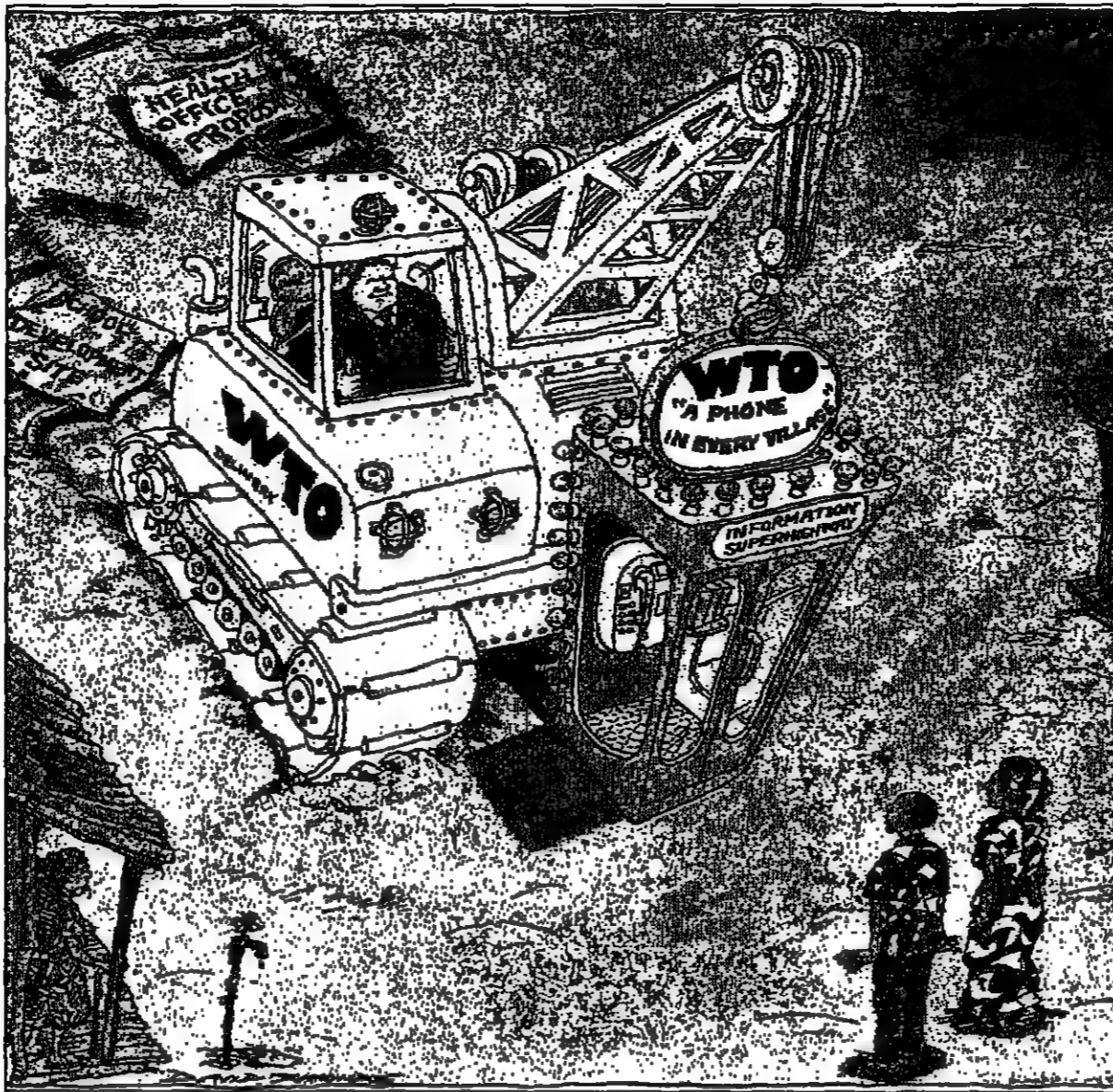
STAFF at the World Trade Organisation know when their boss is pleased with them. Renato Ruggiero beams in big Italian smiles and says: "You have made well your word". The sunny side of Mr Ruggiero was evident last Friday when the WTO ended its first ministerial conference with a show of unity and a clear programme for a further round of trade liberalisation at the turn of the century.

By harnessing the force of globalisation to the cause of free trade, the WTO director-general is confident that the club will bring rising prosperity. It is a dream of putting a phone in every small village, of plugging the world into the information superhighway.

There is no doubting Mr Ruggiero's evangelical zeal. It has to be recognised, too, that the WTO now wields resounding clout. It is also a club in the right direction, providing weaker nations with a system based on rules rather than economic muscle.

Nor can it be argued that free trade can be sold for only one reason. There is plenty of evidence that free trade has benefited the world since the end of the second world war. It has brought about a boom in living standards that has not been matched elsewhere. This, after all, is what the international division of labour is about. Two countries stand to gain from concentrating on what they are good at and trading with each other. That, at least, is the theory.

The reality is that it is more difficult, not less, because every country in the world, whatever its state of development, is being asked to do the same mod-



at a frantic pace. America, a huge country blessed with stupendous natural resources, has taken more than a century progressively to reduce its tariffs, and it is still riddled with protectionism.

Small countries are being dragged into a liberalisation process so rapid that there was a strong undercurrent of thought at last week's meeting that the globalisation is merely the rich countries looking after themselves.

The scepticism is well-placed. What ministers from Senegal and Jamaica were speaking to a largely empty hall, the Americans and the Europeans were stalling together a deal to open up a global market in IT.

To be fair, Washington and Brussels made no bones about what they were up to. Charles Brachet, the acting US trade representative, spent more than 15 hours per conference talking about how good the agreement would be for American high-tech firms.

The IT negotiations underlined a simple fact for all their talk, the EU and the US are not on a crusade for free trade at all. The doctrine of classical free trade stipulates that cutting your tariffs is a good thing, whatever other countries do.

In truth, the US, the EU and Japan are old-fashioned mercantilists who believe that trade is a zero-sum game in which the biggest benefits in terms of jobs and growth go to those with the most clout.

The big players, naturally, have a different approach. It is about the power of the state that a big transnational should be denied access. That sort of protectionism has to be stamped out, even if it means the smaller country is thereby prevented from building up its own industrial base. The counter-argument is that protectionism is, without question, disastrous for jobs and growth. Economists need look no further than the Smoot-Hawley tariff, introduced in the US in 1930, to how conclusively that protectionism equals depression.

Unfortunately, that argument looks less good when held up to

the light. The US tariff had been tripled to 40 per cent in the aftermath of the first world war, but productivity and growth soared in the 1920s. The reason, according to revisionist US economists, is that income taxes were cut, increasing the spending power of domestic producers.

By contrast, the Smoot-Hawley tariff was accompanied by a swingeing income-tax increase, and it was this that caused the slump. It is not free trade that delivers productivity gains and growth but ferocious internal competition.

This is an argument that cannot be dismissed out of hand. America's share of exports in GDP has doubled in the past 20 years but productivity growth has fallen. Growth has been sluggish and real wages have

dropped. Here we come to a final point. Even if the increase in trade boosts overall global output, how can we be sure that the gains from that growth are distributed fairly? Moreover, if the growth has a high but unqualified cost, this need to pay off its debt, and it wants developing countries to raise the level of worker rights. And all this must be achieved at zero cost.

There is some hope. Developing countries such as India, Pakistan and Brazil, are becoming quite powerful WTO players and are refusing to be steam-rollered aside. But it is a slow process.

Mervyn Assani, trade minister of Trinidad and Tobago, put it nicely when he said: "While it is no doubt important to put a phone in every village, many of us have today have far greater responsibilities to our villages. We must put a school, put a road, put a health office, put a notice advising of the use of pesticides so as not to jeopardise market access for exportable goods."

And given that... we must, increasingly, do it all ourselves, there remains that obvious disparity which we attach to a village phone — which we do not manufacture and in which we do not have an export interest — and a plethora of competing demands.

It was a well-aimed rebuke for the WTO's director-general. Unless Mr Ruggiero, the WTO and the rich countries of the North address the concerns of countries like Trinidad and Tobago they will not make their work.

**Free trade is far from perfect goal it is held to be**

**Debate/New policies spell pollution. Who pays, asks Simon Zadek**

THE World Trade Organisation may foster environmentally destructive production and trade at the expense of economically weaker nations. The danger is that governments are discouraged from fully accounting for the environmental and social costs of trade.

The supporters of free trade argue that it will bring economic growth and that rich countries pollute less and use less resources per head of population.

In this theory the relationship between national income and trade is thought to be shaped like an upside down U: environmental degradation increases only up to a certain level of income and then begins to decrease.

A host of studies during the 1980s and 1990s tested the existence and nature of this inverted U-shaped relationship. Many of these studies, including one carried out recently by the New Economics Foundation on behalf of the World Wide Fund for Nature, have concluded that the data and methodology in the research which supports the curve are wobbly. NEF's report says the more bullish studies ignore some of the polluting practices of industrial countries.

Analysis that has sought to adjust for such critical omissions and errors of analysis have found that it is possible that, as income increases, pollution increases too. The confounding view that the environment will be "looked after" through economic growth is, quite simply, wrong.

The evidence indicates that conventional trade liberalisation generates significant and often irreversible environmental damage. The studies suggest that increased trade need not always have such negative effects. The policy and institutional environment in which trade takes place are important factors.

The forms of production and trade encouraged through liberalisation policies may be of the wrong kind to achieve the environmental-economic "win-win" option.

It is vital to abandon the view that economic growth must be achieved before acting to protect the environment.

The cost of damage to the environment must be accounted for: at a macro level in the national accounts, in relation to the activities of transnational corporations through environmental and social accounting, and at local levels.

Environmental legislation must be enacted and enforced where voluntary action in relation to environmental protection is not forthcoming. It will be necessary to compare nations and communities which act to protect common global resources as well as their own environment — in direct financial terms or through certain forms of trade liberalisation that encourage environmentally-benign production in poorer countries of products for sale in richer markets.

Adding this up means that the environment must be a factor in trade liberalisation. A legislative framework which encourages production for international trade (the WTO) must simultaneously be supported by the wider international community of nations.

Simon Zadek is research director of the New Economics Foundation.

**Beware the Euro-police squad's thin, pink line**

Wom's eye

Dan Atkinson

STRASBOURG. Expect much wailing and gnashing of teeth in London if, as expected, Ernest Aerts, chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, could find success in Strasbourg in unthinkably. Down the road in the City, however, a Saunders victory may well have even the

most sceptical fat-cat smiling. After all, a proper regard for the rights for very important suits not to be asked impertinent questions by the Department of Trade and Industry will be a welcome sign that the court is abandoning infantile obsessions with human rights.

Together with the appearance of the "Third World" toilet-paper Euro-notes in Dublin, the Saunders result may return us briefly to the status quo of 20 years ago, when big business loved

Europe and the left wanted out. After all, your average businessman is a natural conformist, and the actual sight of those Quality Street wrappers with "euro" printed on them is Greek will bring out the bully worshipper in many a chalk-striped individual.

Conversely, those unions who have spent five years being terribly *outraged* about the single currency may now twig that the "vital public services" upon which their members

**Lloyd's takes Names to court**

Peter Springett

LLOYD'S of London will this week launch a fierce courtroom offensive in an effort to force a revamp of the 300-year-old insurance market — have named to sign Lloyd's recent £2.2 billion rescue package.

The deal was accepted by most of the market's 34,000 names at the end of August. Lloyd's lost £2 billion in the 16 years from 1980 to 1992, and the settlement dealt with the market's collapse. But a hardline group of

**Alliance & Leicester plans to grow**

Tony May

ALLIANCE & Leicester plans to expand further into banking, insurance and unit trusts after its £29 billion stock market flotation in the spring.

The company, which will rank 70th out of the Stock Exchange's top 100, will still be small by the standards of other banks and could prove vulnerable to a predator. To avoid takeover it plans "to rapidly put on weight."

The official unemployed claimant total is about to drop below two million, says a Labour Party study. Labour's redundancy court — culled by employment

managers and investors with plans to raise funds in exchange for shares.

The extent to which the Alliance has already diversified is one of its most appealing characteristics as far as the City is concerned.

It gets 40 per cent of its £22 billion profit from non-traditional sources, like the £70 billion Girobank cash transmission business which made a surplus of £85.5 million last year.

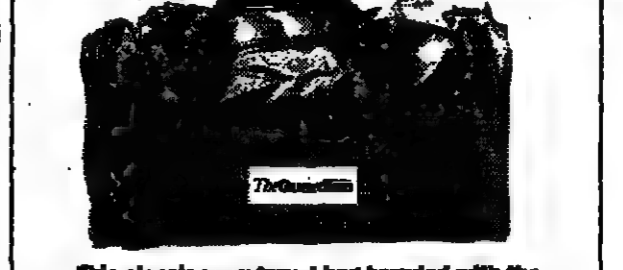
Peter White, chief executive of Britain's fourth largest building society, has told investors: "The Alliance & Leicester is looking to grow its business and indeed that forms part of the rationale for our flotation."

"We are looking to make acquisitions that fit our business strategy and for which there is a proper business case. We do not intend to make any hostile approaches and when we identify companies we will go to the City with a plan and the name of the organisation and the amount of money we need."

**Tourist rates — bank sells**

Australia 2.02	France 6.38	Italy 2.490	Singapore 2.28
Austria 17.47	Germany 2.48	Malta 0.5780	S Africa 7.84
Belgium 51.18	Greece 295.00	Netherlands 2.78	Spain 209.00
Canada 2.19	H Kong 12.90	New Zealand 2.2980	Sweden 11.11
Cyprus 0.7328	India 56.50	Norway 10.48	Switzerland 2.11
Denmark 9.56	Ireland 0.9988	Portugal 292.10	Turkey 165.489
Finland 7.88	Israel 5.44	Saudi Arabia 6.17	USA 1.82

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# Racing Addington on upgrade

Chris Hewkins

**A**DDINGTON BOY put himself firmly on the Cheltenham Gold Cup trail when winning the Triplemint Chase at Prestbury Park on Saturday.

Emphasising the strength in depth of Gordon Richards's stable, the progressive eight-year-old stayed on strongly up the hill to justify a favourite's claim, beating Go Universal by six lengths.

"Touch wood he's fine this morning," said Richards yesterday. "He'll have three or four weeks off and then we'll start thinking about getting him ready for the Gold Cup."

"There's no problem as far as I'm concerned about him staying three and a quarter miles. Ideally he'd want ground with a side bit of give, but then so would most chasers. I read somewhere that he must have fast ground but that's wrong."

Come March, Richards could find himself with three or even four Gold Cup runners as One Man, The Grey Monk and Unguided Missile are all possibilities.

One Man's big target before then is the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day and he was denied a fascinating warm-up clash with Rough Quest Saturday because of the abandonment of the Haydock card.

"It was a shame he couldn't have a gallop for £10,000 as he's super-fit and I was pretty confident," said the trainer. "Provided we don't get any hold-up in the weather there's no reason why he won't go to Kempton in just as good shape."

Richards does not expect The Grey Monk to run in the Coral Welsh National on December 27, fearing that his spectacular young jumper would have to shoulder top weight. This looks more likely following the defection of Lo Stregone.

"I wouldn't want The Grey Monk to have a slog over that

distance so I think I'm more likely to run Parsons Boy who has 9st 7lb and should get into the race on a nice mark."

Brian Harding is expected to ride Parsons Boy, given an 8-1 quote by Hill's, having won twice on the gelding this season.

Richards has the Rowland Meyrick Chase at Wetherby on Boxing Day as the alternative for The Grey Monk who was beaten by Coome Hill in the Hennessy last month.

Either The Grey Monk, who seemed to be cantering two out, was simply beaten by a better horse or whether he did not get home is something which has been exercising the trainer's mind.

"To me he always looked like he was going to win but he was beaten so easily in the end that there's just a little question in my mind about whether he should make a quarter," said Richards.

This is another reason why Richards is fighting shy of the Welsh National but the question of stamina is obviously vital to his Gold Cup chances.

It is possible that like One Man he is best at three miles and that Addington Boy (16-1 from 25-1) is going to emerge as the stable's number one for Cheltenham.

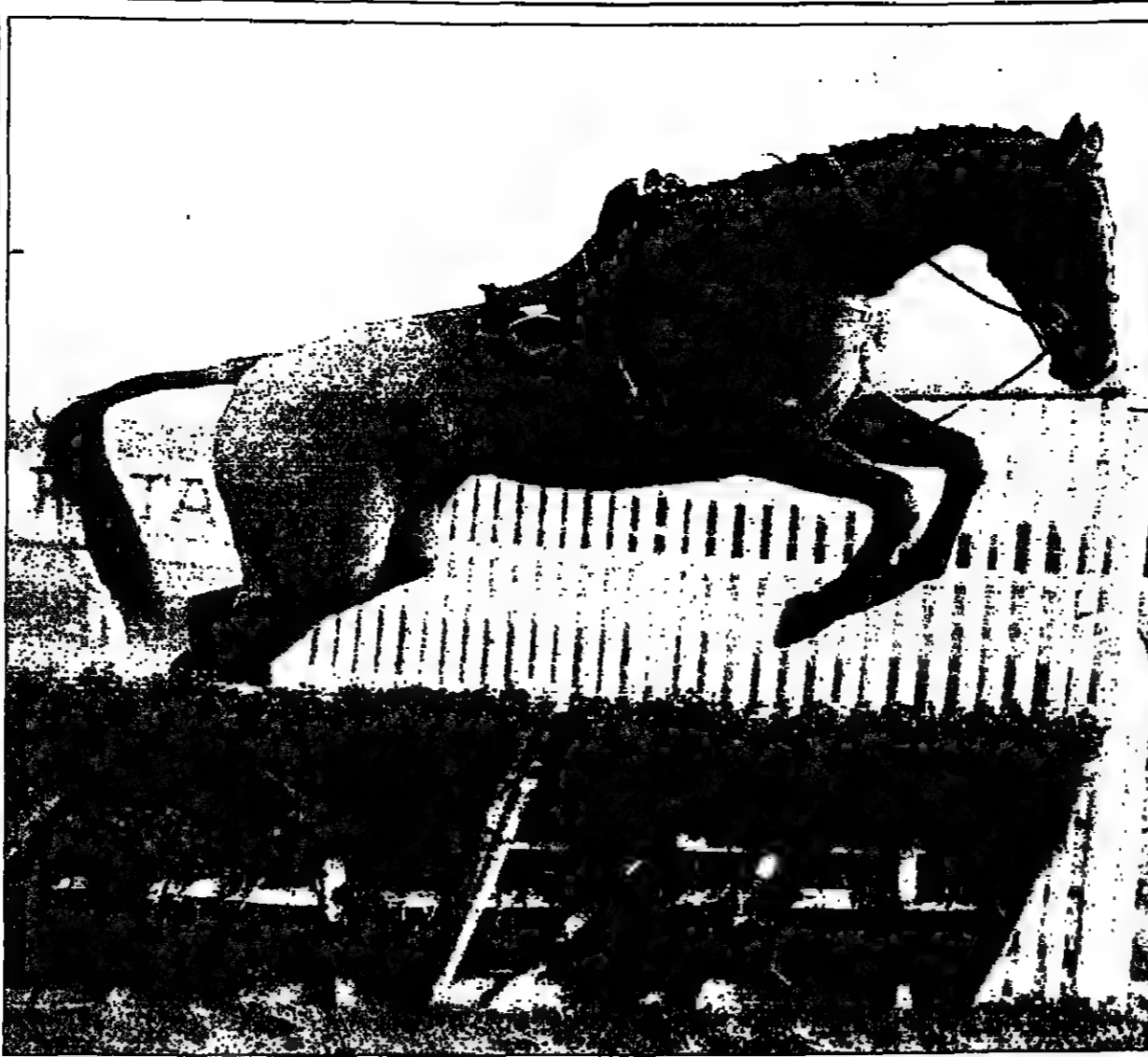
More about the prospects of Unguided Missile will be known after next Saturday's Betterware Chase at Ascot.

Terry Casey will give Rough Quest a run over hurdles at Folkestone tomorrow to sharpen him up for the King George.

"I'm not overly happy about it, but he'll run in a two and a half miles hurdles race provided he doesn't get balloted out," said Casey.

"I'm left with no other option. He has to get a race under his belt before Kempton and the Betterware Chase doesn't leave enough time."

Hill's make Rough Quest 6-1 chance for the King George behind 4-6 favourite One Man. Sound Man is 4-1, with the former winner Barton Bank on 10's.



Horse-laugh... a nonplussed Gerry Hogan looks on as Goatsfoot, his mount in the Racecourse Medical Officers Association Hurdle at Doncaster on Saturday, jumps the first obstacle without him. Goatsfoot, who had tried to refuse and ejected Hogan at the first hurdle at Huntingdon in October, again unseated the hapless rider but this time elected to pop over just as Hogan was preparing to collect him.

## Delay those Action betts warns Sherwood

Chris Hewkins

**L**ARGE Action had his Champion Hurdle odds trimmed to 6-1 from 8-1 after beating Himsey by half a length in the Bula Hurdle at Cheltenham on Saturday, but long-range punters should hold fire because of the situation.

Sherwood warned yesterday. Large Action had to be rousted up the hill by Jamie Osborne after looking as if he would win without

coming off the bit approaching the final flight, and his lack of finishing speed may always count against him in the Champion Hurdle in which he has previously finished second and third.

Indeed Sherwood is convinced Large Action is more effective over longer distances and might switch him to the Stayers' Hurdle at the Festival in March.

"I'd like to run him in the Champion but if, for instance, Alderbrook is looking good and winning

his prep races I might change my mind," he said. "I want to win races at Cheltenham and it would be better to win the Stayers' Hurdle rather than finish third in the Champion."

"This places ante-post punters in an awkward position but I hope people will understand the situation and I'm sure they will."

Sherwood had been concerned that the firmish ground would be unsuitable for Large Action but he reported the eight-year-old in good shape yesterday.

Large Action will have just one more race in the build up to the Festival. Sherwood has pencilled in next month's Cleeve Hurdle or the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury.

"I don't think he's the sort of horse that needs a lot of practice now and I'm sure he'll be a lot better if he goes to the Festival fresh."

Alderbrook is 3-1 favourite with Hill's for the Champion Hurdle, half the odds of Collier Bay, his conqueror last year.

Atours, a 20-1 chance with Hill's, is not unlikely to make the Champion Hurdle after suffering another setback.

"Atours has incurred a very serious injury," trainer David Esworth said yesterday. "He's still a pester and then injured it again when he was just fooling about. It is fairly serious and he has been planned and booted. He hasn't been retired but I wouldn't go backing him for any Champion Hurdles just yet."

## Newton Abbot

12.30 Star Performer  
1.30 Ashford Love (new)  
1.50 Priority Home

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1.00 Pridewind Plover (new)  
1.30 Oystertop

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## Newcastle card with guide to the latest firm

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1.10 Action  
1.40 White Willow

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## Bookies take on Lottery with 49s

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Bookies take on Lottery with 49s

**RACINE**  
0930 168+  
WARWICK N. ABBOT NEWCASTLE 103

**Major bid**  
MAJOR BELL, good second to the handicap "snip" Strong Promise at Ascot last month, returns to the Berkshire course to contest the Betterware Chase on Saturday.

Blinkered for the first time today: NEWCASTLE L40 Percy Parrot. NEWTON ABBOT 12.50 Palosanto. WARWICK 1.30 King's Courtier.

**No pyrotechnics.**  
Just Vorsprung durch Technik.  
The new Audi A3. For more information or test drive details, please call 0345 699 777.

Stark imp with Five  
Boks h Welsh

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY

England 20, Argentina 18

Rowell's ragged army in need of refit

Robert Armstrong

ENGLAND avoided the humiliation of a home defeat by the amateurs of Argentina but there was no escaping the grotesque shambles of their worst performance since Jack Rowell took charge in 1984.

Rowell's disorganised crew — team would be a misnomer for them — entered into the Christmas spirit by handing six penalties which the excellent Argentinian goalkicker Gonzalo Quesada took with aplomb despite unsporting whistling from the 60,000 crowd.

Since the World Cup 18 months ago England have learned nothing and forgotten many of the basic lessons pinned their long run of success under the previous manager Geoff Cooks.

Rowell talks about getting to grips with the "issues" of team selection and development yet he seems strangely out of touch as a modern Test coach, with little to show from the past year.

Crucially the half-backs need to be steadied by picking a specialist No. 10, either Grayson or King, and a more experienced scrum-half such as Bracken or Dawson.

Selection, too, is not only about choosing the right players but also about picking them in the right positions. Sheehy, who was substituted by Clarke after the break, should be switched to the open side and not relegated to the bench.

Crucially the half-backs need to be steadied by picking a specialist No. 10, either Grayson or King, and a more experienced scrum-half such as Bracken or Dawson.

The England coach should stop justifying every mediocre performance by Catt by reminding us that it took Rob Andrew 20 games to establish himself as an international fly-half.



Moment of cohesion... an England attack keeps its momentum for once as Nick Beal squirms out of an Argentinian tackle and finds Tony Underwood in support

A high price for a poor victory

Ian Maflin sees little return from new era of rich investment

THE touts were as generous as Scrooge on Christmas morning. "Well, they're £22 at face value but you can have them for less. And half-price for the youngsters."

Twenty thousand spaces in the crowd on Saturday told how English rugby has over-valued itself. So, when England's professionals on £70,000 contracts come close to losing to the amateurs of Argentina whose short tour will net each player around £1,000 in expenses, supporters were lacking in good will.

As England wrenched victory the crowd displayed as much charity as a Victorian workhouse in winter. Their frustration was chiefly aimed at Mike Catt. The fly-half had a wretched second half but booing him when he opted to kick England's fifth penalty 15 minutes from time was surely unfair.

In the end that penalty was the difference between the sides but England's shortcomings are not tolerated in this new professional era. The crowd felt justified in asking why their money is helping pay the six-figure salary of a has-been Springbok while England fail to nurture a decent home-grown fly-half.

And why, in an era when even the England shirt is beset with an advertising logo, can Argentina, a country whose sponsorship for the game has been non-existent, give the home side an 80 minutes every bit as uncomfortable as when these teams met in the World Cup 18 months ago.

Argentina's front row in that game in 1984, which England won 24-18, has been replaced but the Pumas' pack still has more beef than Fray Bentos. The combined weight of their locks Pedro Sporleder and German Llanes is around 39 stone, and their value in the scrums and line-outs was beyond price.

"They're as strong as in the 1995 World Cup," said Jason Leonard, England's captain for the day. "Not many front rows are bigger than ours but technically they were very sound and strong."

Now even the true blue amateurs of Argentina are planning a professional structure to prevent the further export of beef such as Federico Mendez and the prop Maurice Reggiardo, the only professional in Saturday's team, who piles his trade with the French club Castres.

The former All Blacks' coach Alex Wyllie, Argentina's current technical adviser, was asked if England's problems stemmed from their fly-half. His silence was as eloquent as that of the crowd at the final whistle.

never gave such an inept display of kicking from hand as the Bath player has done against the New Zealand Barbarians and Argentina. On Saturday Catt hoofed away possession or failed to find touch far too often.

England's root problem was their inability to build a solid platform under persistent pressure from a highly motivated Argentinian pack. Martin and Bouza were ultra-competitive in the back row and the locks Sporleder and Llanes were big, broad-

chested athletes with a surprising turn of pace, not to mention delicate skills. As Leonard pointed out: "Their front row [Grau, Promanzio and Reggiardo] overwhelmed us, though we are not small."

Behind the scrum Argentina showed greater composure and tactical nous as their halfbacks Miranda and Quesada demonstrated with shrewd option-taking. Fortunately the Argentinian forwards were almost as undisciplined as the English, committing close-quarter of-

fences that allowed Catt to kick five superb penalty goals and keep his side in touch until Leonard and friends rumbled over in the left corner eight minutes from time.

"This was a big step forward for Argentinian rugby but we need a level playing-field in the way our game is organised to compete on equal terms with the professionals," said their captain Lisandro Arbizu.

"We must learn how to profit from pressures by getting points on the board. We should have scored a couple of tries but overall I am happy with the way things turned out. Already we are professionals in our heads."

England may be professional in body as well as mind, yet the disjointed pattern of the domestic season will embroil squad members

successively in the Pilkington Cup, the Courage League and the European Cup over the next six weeks. That melange of demanding fixtures cannot be the ideal preparation for the Five Nations.

It remains to be seen whether Phil de Glanville, who missed the Argentinian game with a thigh strain, will win back his place — and the captaincy — now that Guscott and Carling have resumed their midfield partnership, albeit with mixed results. Indeed, de Glanville could find

his time and energy consumed by his role as captain of Bath, who are going for a league and cup double as compensation for their early exit from Europe.

England's palpable lack of aggression and creative ideas on Saturday allowed a so-

called second-rank rugby nation to come perilously close to inflicting embarrassing damage. Overworked players, a coach who has run out of steam, leadership frailties and a confusing loss of authority fore and aft — England's prolonged pursuit of the major Southern Hemisphere nations is now looking little more than a grisly joke.

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We have given Catt three games in a row at No. 10 while searching for the combination that will take us forward. Others will come into the reckoning — Jack Rowell

We have got to up the pace of the game and of our thinking. Some excellent stuff came in the last 10 minutes but that does not excuse what went on before — Phil de Glanville

Scotland 29, Italy 22

Stark improvement flatters Scots with Five Nations looming

Gordon Lyle at Murrayfield

SCOTLAND will be able to look forward to the Five Nations with greater optimism based on an improved second-half display

in the final game before they open their campaign here against Wales next month.

After tralling the Italians 12-8 at the interval, the Scots cut loose when it mattered, with the decisive try coming from the replacement Derek

Stark 12 minutes from the end. While the margin of victory in the first full-cap meeting between the countries may not appear flattering, the Scots looked sharper in several areas. In an improved

scrummage the new cap, Mattie Stewart, shone at tight head while Scotland were more competitive at the restarts largely due to the recalled Andy Reid. There was also some excellent finishing from the backs.

January 4, believed they were unlikely. Their captain Massimo Giovannelli said: "We matched the Scots in virtually every department. We showed again that we can compete with and come close to beating a major rugby nation."

However, Charlie Bisset, a Scottish representative on the Five Nations committee, is reported to have said that Italy's possible inclusion is not down to playing ability alone. But it was inside Thomas that Wales could savour the day's copper-bottomed class act in the shape of their scrum-half Robert Howley, a glistering find. Up against the very best in the game in Joost van der Westhuisen, Howley faced his sternest challenge but came through.

return on matches was an important factor.

Scotland's coach Richie Dixon acknowledged that his side had made a lot of mistakes in the first half but added: "We pulled things together to score some very fine tries against a strong side. The line-out continues to be a worry but I was delighted with the way our backs took their chances."

The Italians relied heavily on their stand-off Diego Dominguez, who kicked 13 points to take his international tally past the 400 mark on his 33rd appearance.

Italy, who complete their unofficial Five Nations sortie against Ireland in Dublin on

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INTERNATIONAL RUGBY

Wales 20, South Africa 27

Boks hide singed as the Welsh team catch fire

Robert Armstrong

SOUTH AFRICA might currently be ruled only the second-best side behind New Zealand, but they turned in a performance worthy of world champions in outscoring never-say-die Wales by five tries to one in an enthralling match.

The movement, colour and spirit of enterprise demonstrated by both sides made for an invigorating contrast with England's leaden-footed performance at Twickenham 24 hours earlier. Wherever one chose to focus, individual canoes of extraordinary skill from Homibati, Small, Joubert, Howley and Bateman flashed by in rapid succession.

None of Van der Westhuisen's mesmerising scores, however, would have been possible without the fearsome pace and power of the Springbok forwards, whose work in broken play created innumerable opportunities. Kruger, Dalton, Andrews and the captain Teichmann behaved like men at the start of a lull rather than the battle-weary professionals who have now forged six successive Test victories in four months.

It was easy to believe Van der Westhuisen when he said: "It's lovely to be back at the Arms Park and to score three tries here. The Welsh are a very good side, especially in counter-attack. They played good rugby."

As their captain Jonathan Humphreys said, Wales got better and faster the longer the game lasted, often threatening the Springboks on their own line, but the world champions' ability to keep moving up a gear meant Welsh pressure

tended to come to nothing. "The pride and the passion were there," Humphreys insisted. "We mobilised the line-outs and experimented a lot more — we took a big step forward today."

The Springboks built a comfortable 16-8 lead within 25 minutes, which swiftly put Wales on the horns of a dilemma: should they kick their short-range penalties or tap and run in the hope of a converted try? Humphreys took the safer option, handing the ball to Jenkins, who obliged in the first half with four penalty goals.

On the stroke of half-time Jenkins again reduced the South African lead with a short-range penalty but the second period had barely begun when Van der Westhuisen again showed his predatory instincts, tearing the ball out of a maul in front of the Welsh posts and crashing over to complete his hat-trick. Jenkins's fifth penalty goal barely

interrupted the Springboks' progress.

In the final quarter Wales's aim was to keep the scorers respectable, which meant defending in depth with courage and organisation as the Springboks launched wave after wave of attacks.

With three minutes left, Arwel Thomas scored a magnificent consolation try at the left flag, after Howley fired the ball from a scrum. It was the least Wales deserved for their brave and unrelenting effort.

Wales' scrum-half provided a defining four de force in the visceral arts and sciences of the position — and time and again spirits soared to the memory of the onliest Gareth on the same famous field — in no way was the gallant and inventive Howley outplayed.

The South Africans' coach Andre Markgraf acknowledged as much: "Joost's greatness is a factor in any Test he plays. Howley might be good, very good, perhaps the best in Europe, but we have Joost and let the British Lions remember that next year."

Markgraf's hint of a smile became noticeably broader

Howley — a Lion poised for attack

Frank Keating marvels at the other class act in a No. 9 shirt

IN TRUTH the thunderously dynamic South Africans might have posted well over the half-century but the spirit and spunk displayed by Wales, and even at times their traditional native panache, provided serious hopes for a rousingly genuine challenge in the Five Nations tournament.

But it was inside Thomas that Wales could savour the day's copper-bottomed class act in the shape of their scrum-half Robert Howley, a glistering find. Up against the very best in the game in Joost van der Westhuisen, Howley faced his sternest challenge but came through.

Unlike the London crowd, the Cardiff throng was encouraged to get behind their team at every opportunity.

"We want to play our rugby on the very edge," the Wales coach Kevin Bowring said. "And Arwel does — he keeps us on the edge."

long-time steady-as-she-goes incumbent Neil Jenkins playing a grand match at full-back — a position he says he does not fancy — the debate about the talismanic No. 10 shirt will now continue to run to the combined fury and delectation of every taproom in the Principality.

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when he recounted that many of the Springboks on Saturday night had watched the recordings of both the matches played by Scotland and England.

Yesterday South Africa time and again looked as if they were about to pop open the stopper and let out their myrtle-green genies all over the shop. Each time Wales courageously bottled them up again.

The new Welsh back row had much more red meat about it, giving and taking some mighty knocks and in both cases seeming to enjoy it for the cause.

The difference between Sunday in Cardiff and Saturday at Twickenham was palpable. Or is it that the haughty English expect too much and the also-rans of Wales actually expect so little?



Arwel does well... Thomas caps a fine display with a try

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Britain's away winners... Mark Foster, 50m freestyle title-holder at the European short-course meeting in Rostock, and Jon Brown, European cross-country champion in Charleroi. The high finks, right, are by Germany's Max Rauffert at Val d'Isere



Weekend results

WORLD CUP

European Qualifying Group Five

Table with columns for Country, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various European teams in Group Five.

Group Six

Table with columns for Country, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various European teams in Group Six.

Group Seven

Table with columns for Country, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various European teams in Group Seven.

Group Eight

Table with columns for Country, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various European teams in Group Eight.

Group Nine

Table with columns for Country, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various European teams in Group Nine.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Premier League teams.

Rugby Union

Table with columns for Match, Result. Lists various rugby union fixtures and results.

Rugby League

Table with columns for Match, Result. Lists various rugby league fixtures and results.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

First Division

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various First Division teams.

Second Division

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Second Division teams.

Third Division

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Third Division teams.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Scottish League teams.

TENNIS SCOTTISH CUP

Table with columns for Round, Team, Result. Lists results for various Scottish Cup tennis matches.

ICIS LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various ICIS League teams.

CON VAUGHAN CONFERENCE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Con Vaughan Conference teams.

UNBOND LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Unbond League teams.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Dr Martens League teams.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Scottish League teams.

Second Division

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Second Division teams.

Third Division

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Third Division teams.

NATIONAL LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various National League Premier teams.

REPRESENTATIVE (Crossex)

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various representative teams.

SCOTTISH INDOOR LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Scottish Indoor League teams.

WOMEN'S INDOOR LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Women's Indoor League teams.

WOMEN'S INDOOR LEAGUE GOLD CUP

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Women's Indoor League Gold Cup teams.

WOMEN'S INDOOR LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various Women's Indoor League teams.

WORLD CUP

Table with columns for Country, W, D, L, F, A, Pts. Lists results for various World Cup teams.

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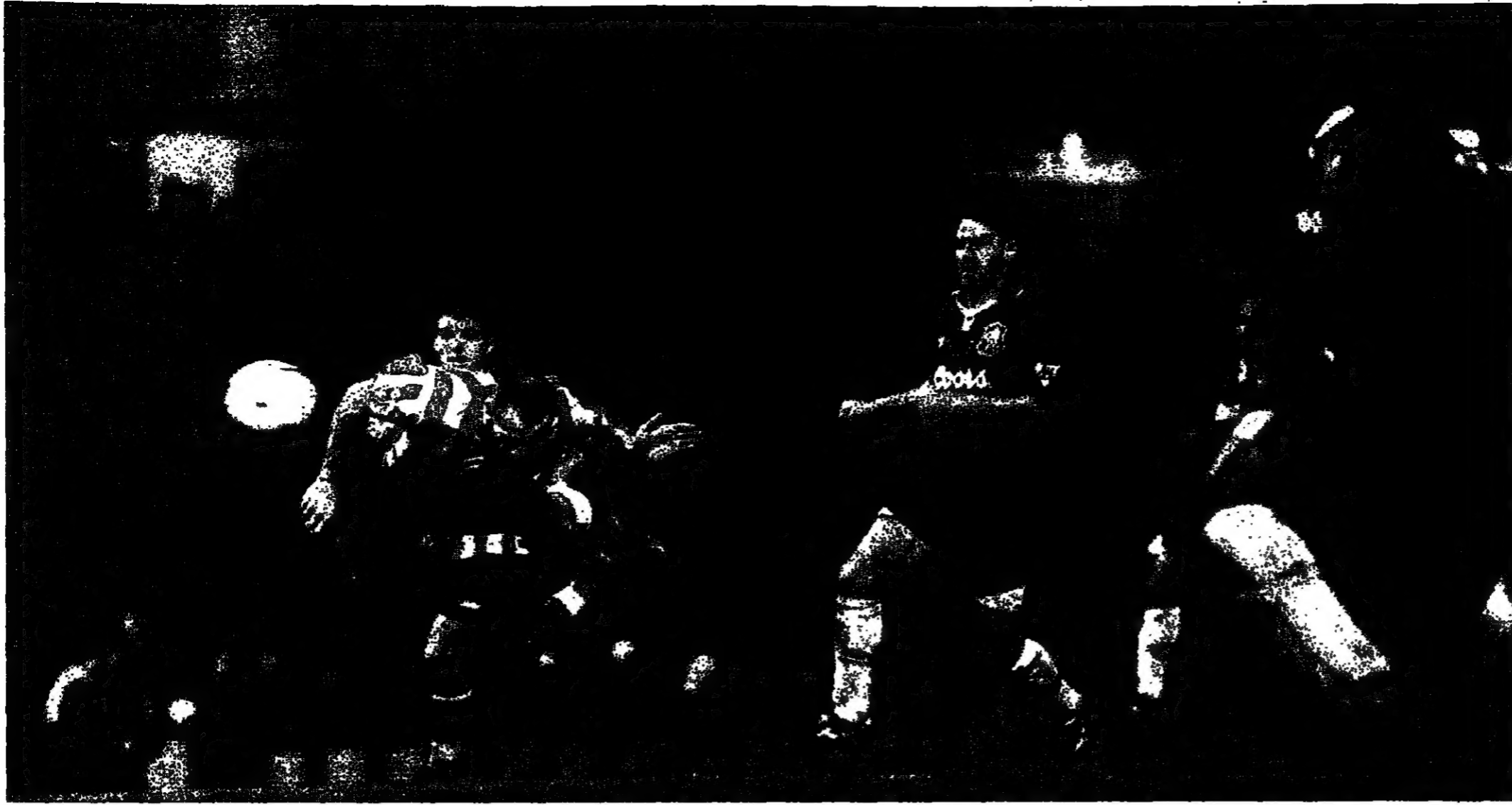
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SOCCER



Ahead of the game... Kevin Ball takes on the Chelsea defence and forces home Gray's cross for Sunderland's second goal in their emphatic win at Roker Park

PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL STEELE

Premiership: Sunderland 3, Chelsea 0

Reid's terriers lead Chelsea a merry dance

Michael Walker

MIDDLESBROUGH may be in free fall while Newcastle are spluttering somewhat but at a moonlit Roker Park yesterday Sunderland proved that there is still a beating pulse in North-east football. They did so in convincing fashion against a limp Chelsea team that had the look of dejected men long before the final whistle.

most of the time they were doing the twist as Sunderland's angry young men chased and battled with a passion that does not always disguise their deficiencies. It did yesterday, though. An unfortunate own-goal from Duberry midway through the first half gave Sunderland a slightly undeserved lead but further goals from Ball and Russell after the interval were warranted and, as Sunderland swelled, Chelsea shrivelled.

With Vialli out injured and Di Matteo on the bench nurse of a Lamsip, Zola was the only Chelsea player to start. Of greater surprise, though, was the decision by the manager Gullit to play alone at centre-forward as he did not wish to risk Hughes, who had played for Wales on Saturday, picking up a hamstring injury.

Judging by his demeanour, the Chelsea manager may have been experiencing a tinge of regret as early as the 12th minute. He stood hands on hips and dreadslocks shaking in disdain at an attempted pass from Duberry. A minute later Gullit was at it again. In fact the only things he had to smile about were a couple of sweet turns from Zola on the left, a flowing seven-man move that came to nothing

but at least hinted at cohesion. It was not until the last seconds of the first half that Perez, in the Sunderland goal, was forced into any serious action, when he saved bravely at the feet of Wise following another clipped Zola pass. By that stage Chelsea were behind, albeit in unfortunate circumstances. On the half-hour Russell collected a Rae flick from a Perez goalkick and, with little else on, decided to shoot. The ball looked on course for the half-moon hanging above Roker Park but struck the retaining wall, bounced back and looped over Grodas. As

Russell declined to celebrate, perhaps Duberry should be given the dubious privilege of being the scorer. Prior to that Sunderland had wasted an inviting opportunity when Bracewell surged unhindered into the Chelsea area but knocked his centre behind Russell and to the left of Rae. However, though a block by Perez at the foot of the goal suggested the Londoners might be finding a workable pattern, Sunderland's persistent harrying was creating problems. Rae may have squandered a previous chance but three minutes after the break, from another 50-50 challenge won

by a red-and-white shirt, he fed Gray. The winger can often infuriate with his poor delivery but this time Gray produced a gem of a centre that Ball met with a smiling, diving header from five yards. Gullit, who had introduced Di Matteo at half-time, then brought on Hughes but Chelsea continued to labour and when Russell added a third in the 68th minute, the Blues were already a defeated team. Russell acknowledged his contribution this time, whirling away with a beaming face after seeing his side-foot shot from Kelly's near-through-ball slide past Grodas.

Second Division  
Bristol City 1  
Bristol Rovers 1

Inquiry ordered as derby ends in riot

David Foot

THE Football Association launched an immediate inquiry into allegations that Bristol Rovers players were assaulted by Bristol City fans as they left the pitch at the end of yesterday's derby. Eight Rovers players, who had gone to acknowledge their own fans' cheers at the final whistle, suddenly sensed danger as several hundred City supporters chased to cut them off. The players, led by the manager Ian Holloway, hurried more than half the length of the pitch in visible fear to the safety of the tunnel. At least one supporter was carried away on a stretcher.

"It's a serious matter and we will be looking at it as a matter of urgency," said the FA's Steve Double. "We need to see the referee's report and what the police have to say. But we're particularly concerned about reports that players were attacked."

An equaliser by Peter Beadle, 90 seconds from the end, had led to a pitch invasion by celebrating Rovers fans which caused a five-minute delay. Mounted police used tear gas to clear the field. "We have worked so hard to dig this club out of a hole - now I have to wonder if it was worth it," said City's young chairman Scott Davidson. "It was appalling." "There will be an immediate internal inquiry. We'll be looking to identify those who caused trouble. I don't want to be associated with those people, so either they go or I do."

Scottish round-up

Rangers set to resolve Dalglish saga this week

Patrick Glenn

SERIOUS doubts have arisen over the likelihood of Kenny Dalglish accepting Rangers' offer to become their global chief scout. The Ibrox chairman David Murray said at the weekend that he expects to meet the former Liverpool and Blackburn manager this week, after which he should be in a position to make a statement. But Murray also confirmed that two previous discussions have taken place and several weeks have passed since news of Rangers' approach first broke. "We are hopeful Kenny will be assisting Rangers in some capacity after we have talked," said Murray. It is believed Dalglish has already indicated he is not interested in the scouting job and that Murray may be trying to lure him into a position which would combine part-time player-hunting with promotion and marketing through the agency of an Edinburgh-based PR company owned by Murray. Murray would be a face-saver for Murray, who does not like being seen to be rejected. It is believed that Dalglish had remained a secret and the latter had refused his offer, the matter would not have been pursued. The Chilean striker Sebastian Rozental has finally agreed a four-year contract with Rangers and will remain with Universidad Catolica until a work permit becomes available. All 10 of those allowed to non-EC players in Scotland are currently in use. The Ibrox side could have done with Rozental's reputed scoring skills against Dunfermline, whose canny defending contributed to a boring 50 minutes. McCoist's opening goal for Rangers after only five minutes was followed by 75 minutes of tedium, before Gough headed a second, Andersen scored a third and Moore replied late for the Ibrox side. The 3-1 win took Rangers further ahead of Aberdeen, who had a scoreless draw with Motherwell at Pittodrie, but cost them the temporary loss of McCoist. The striker twisted an ankle and was carried off. He will miss tomorrow's match with Kilmarnock.

First Division: Norwich 1, Crystal Palace 1

Baffling failure to stand out from the crowd

Nick Hutchings

FOR anyone daft enough to be delving for a little rhyme or reason to this season's First Division promotion race, Carrow Road at a quarter to five on Saturday would have revealed all. For there was this winter's rush for the land of milk and honey in all its fundamental finery; an ugly, inconclusive 21-man brawl in which both ambition and obvious ability flourished in the face of a season-long session of push and shove, high on nine months of January sales' scrapping for the gilt-edged dinner service. In the 87 minutes that preceded this astonishing free-for-all, Norwich City and Crystal Palace had offered enough evidence of thoughtful football to suggest that both will be near the head of the herd in May. Yet after Neil Adams' deflected free-kick in the 71st minute had wiped out Neil Shipperley's smart, third-minute opener for Palace, Norwich were left with only their third point from a possible 21 and Palace with two from 12. Meanwhile Bolton were on top, without a win in seven and Wolves in the play-off pack but victims of a sixth home defeat. It is shambles. Ray Houghton set Saturday's late fun and games in motion when he took exception to Darron Eadie's tumble over the beaten, back-pedalling Kevin Muscat. Booked in the first period, Muscat's crude block on Norwich's flying England Under-21 forward had the referee fumbling for his red card before Houghton heaved Eadie to the floor. Two minutes later, with Marc Edworthy and John Palston writing on the ground in the land of two falls and one submission, Muscat departed for his second bookable offence and Houghton, first to reach for the handbag, for "violent conduct." It was his first dismissal in 18 years as a professional. "At least the players showed some reaction and I haven't been having that for a while," was Mike Walker's view, although City's eventual point owed as much to the half-time switch to a five-man midfield, in which a strapping Rob Newman successfully minded the division's best playmaker Ian Crook, as to the welcome return of a little more fighting spirit. For the Palace manager Dave Bassett, without the injured David Hopkin and choosing to drop the classy Dougie Freedman to accommodate Houghton's first start since the end of September, a draw was the least his side deserved after tearing Norwich apart in the opening half-hour. "We played some good, incisive football but could have just done with the cushion of a second goal," said Bassett. Carl Veart came closest to answering his manager's prayers with a storming, 13th-minute run and drive that shattered the base of Bryan Gunn's left post. No crisis at the Palace, then just a little difficulty. "We're not playing that badly," Bassett insisted. "We're still scoring goals, the dice will turn. It's like your marriage - if you have a row with your missus you don't divorce her." As for the one player to stand alone and aloof from that Saturday scrap, a gleaming, gold star to the Palace defender David Tuttle. If only the charge for the Premiership were as simple. Standing out from the crowd is a definite art form yet to be mastered by the First Division's finest.



Houghton... first dismissal

Aldridge proves to the Manor bom with display of striking quality

Russell Thomas sees Oxford outclass Sheffield United

DAVID MELLOR, demonstrating that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing, confused Oxford present and past on Saturday evening by mistaking one Aldridge for another. No matter, Martin Aldridge was probably flattered to be mentioned in the same breath as John by the garrulous radio show host. Aldridge's hat-trick in 20 first-half minutes evoked memories of his unrelated namesake but all comparisons end there. This special tale at the Manor Ground offered all manner of contrasts. Oxford were scarcely flattered by the margin of their 4-1 victory over a disappointing Sheffield United, nor were they by Denis Smith's praise. "You won't get much better in this division," said the home manager. Howard Kendall was equally forthright, condemning his team's performance as "the worst since I've been at the club." The visit to Oxford, a significant venue for Kendall in Everton days, marked his first anniversary as the Blades' manager. His team left their good habits in the dressing-room, along with Mick Vock, who damaged an Achilles tendon in the pre-match warm-up. Without the tall Dutch defender they won little in



Smith... sheering success

the air, where Jemson can seldom have enjoyed such superiority. In Oxford's defence Smith's most expensive purchase, the £175,000 Elliott, mopped up aerially and on the ground. Even the quick, clever Katchourou was ensnared. Only Kelly's reputation was spared in Oxford's onslaught. Aldridge struck with volley, close-range stab and sweeping shot between the 13th and 53rd minutes. Jemson missed a penalty before heading his 15th goal of the season. Whitehead, in Oxford's first, was unoccupied until the 49th minute when he comfortably held a cross. It was the Blades' second defeat in 14 games, yet Smith was not surprised even if he sees the promotion contest, in which Oxford are now heavily involved, as a battle of unequals. These two clubs may be separated by two places but, Smith said, by a chasm in resources. "There was no shock either in Aldridge's first senior hat-trick. "Martin's got total belief in himself," said Smith. "It just had to come." Aldridge had gone eight games without a goal but his confidence had been sustained by a simple philosophy: "If you miss a chance, forget it - another will come along."

Bolton Wanderers 1, Ipswich Town 2

Leaders lose invincible look

Stephen Morley

THE Manchester Evening News' Saturday headline "Nude witch to be a JP" easily topped anything that was ever going to happen on any North-west football pitch at the weekend, although the link between law and order and the weird and wonderful is clearly prevalent in the First Division. Bolton Wanderers had established themselves at the top with seemingly invincible authority but their first home defeat extended a worrying sequence to seven league matches without a win, although sandwiched between was that 3-1 Coca-Cola Cup victory over Spurs. "It is unwise to judge a team on one performance, particularly as they were missing two key players, Gerry Taggart and Nathan Blake, on international duty. However, two thoughts emerged strongly: if Bolton are the best side in the division then the rest must be pretty poor; and the general standard of football outside the Premiership continues to decline. The First Division is a ragbag of foreign players, essential to numerous line-ups because they are cheap. Such unwise husbandry will no doubt lead to a general withering of home talent although all may yet be saved by an influx of foreign managers and coaches. It has long been obvious that the decline of British football at European club level has as much to do with the inadequacies of our man-

agers as with the technical failure of the players. Our game, notably in the lower divisions, needs fresh thoughts from abroad and an altogether more imaginative approach on and off the pitch. Bobby Robson's Ipswich were well ahead of their time, a happy amalgam of British strength and flair, Dutch skills and craft, and exceptional *joie de vivre*, even if Robson himself was prone to long periods of post-match introspection and pessimism whenever form and fortune turned against his side. George Burley, a member of that team, has had a real struggle to right the listing Suffolk ship although now, with youngsters like Wright, Naylor and Scowcroft, the scorer of both goals, there is more optimism than for some time. But will he be able to keep such burgeoning talent? "Well, there's the problem." Ipswich took the lead when Naylor's header released Dahlenbeck into acres of ridiculously unguarded territory and Scowcroft accepted the final pass with relish. Bolton scrambled the equaliser, the impressive Wright seemingly fouled in the process, but then Scowcroft manufactured the winner after a harmless ball fell behind Fairclough and Braganza committed himself far too early and was comfortably lobbed. Bolton have probably enough strength in depth to win promotion back to the Premiership in time for the completion of their new ground. Whether they can last for longer than last time seems doubtful. The turning point was when Edwards, the home team's defender, was sent off after 63 minutes for his second caution. He could not complain: his tackles on Hayfield and Harris were unsuitable and ill-timed. But it meant a reshuffle and Rovers grew in enterprise and hope. At last Holloway himself was buzzing. Before that he seemed overruled by the responsibilities of holding his nervous team together and his anxious eyes darted everywhere as the Ashton Gate partisans booed him when he had possession. But Rovers were on top by the end. It was not the birthday his opposite number Joe Jordan would have wished.

Wolverhampton Wanderers 0, Oldham Athletic 1

More problems at home put a dampener on McGhee's anniversary

Peter White

THIS was not the most auspicious way for Mark McGhee to complete his first year as Wolves' manager, with any thoughts of celebration going to all intents in the 14th minute when Oldham's lanky striker Ian Ormondroyd rose unmarked to meet Nick Henry's deep centre and plant a firm header beyond the reach of Mick Stowell.

From that moment Molineux again saw Wolves' inability to break down a team content to sit back and soak up the pressure. This was the sixth occasion this season that McGhee's multi-million pound line-up has tumbled to defeat at home. In the past McGhee has made a habit of moving clubs during December. Perhaps it is as well Wolves are sixth in the table, courtesy of their inspired away form, otherwise

their manager may face another move, this time forced upon him. Such is the erratic nature of the First Division this season that within minutes of securing a welcome victory to move off the bottom of the table, the Oldham manager Graeme Sharp hinted that his team still had time to make up ground and figure in the play-off. That was of scant consolation to McGhee, who is aware

that Wolves have already wasted ample opportunity to establish a comfortable advantage at the top. "We cannot afford to lose another game at Molineux if we hope to gain automatic promotion," he said. "We must turn the corner now if we are going to make the top two." Gates of over 20,000 for the past three years underline the level of expectation at the club. But it is proving a burden to some players and

McGhee is wondering which way to turn. "It comes to a point where science goes out of the window. We have made some progress during my 12 months here but we still have some way to go. "The way my lot are playing the corner now if we are going to pick themselves up and win at Tranmere at the weekend, which underlines my feeling that any of the top eight or 10 teams could clinch an automatic promotion place."

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

Five pages of sport

Rugby Union
Wales get
master class
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champions

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invasion
wrecks local
derby match

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SportExtra

HUMILIATING START TO ONE-DAY SERIES

England sink to a new low

David Hopps in Bulawayo sees Mike Atherton's batsmen collapse again

ANYBODY in the mood for another story of sporting humiliation? Oh, go on. There are times when the England team seems to have been invented as the vehicle for scorn and derision.

but just invites a feeling of depression. Console yourself that you are not alone. But indignation must still work within you somewhere. Consider the facts. England have played Zimbabwe in four one-day internationals and have lost three, yesterday's two-wicket defeat at Queen's coming courtesy of about as vacillating a batting display as one could wish to witness - 152 all out on a pitch that might have inhibited strokeplay but which was reliable enough to have provided at least 200.

Scoreboard

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player and Score. Includes England XI and Zimbabwe XI.

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Up to his knees in despair... the England bowler Darren Gough shows his disappointment as Zimbabwe clinch the first one-day international in Bulawayo

MORSE

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How Erika became Erik and gave Marielle gold

Alex Duval Smith explains why a French skier became a world champion this weekend 30 years after the event

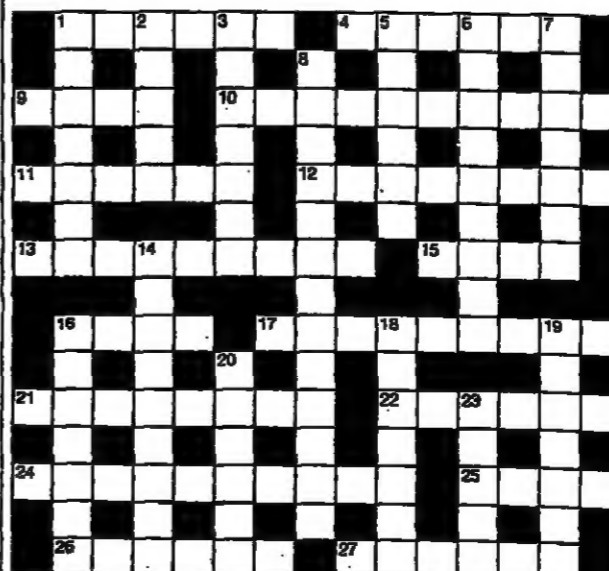
MARIELLE Goetschel has received a world alpine skiing championship gold medal 30 years after the event when it became clear that the woman who beat her was a man.

Goetschel in the downhill by a Sec. "Even though he was masculine, he thought he was a woman." Goetschel explained. "That is because his male genitals were inside his body. After this was discovered, he had to have a very complex operation. In all this he suffered much more than anyone else."

the Grenoble Games. Doctors detected only male chromosomes in his saliva. Goetschel, the most successful woman skier of all time, runs a holiday village and ski school with her two sons in Val Thorens. Though her career lasted only six years, she won World Cup, world championship and Olympic gold in downhill, the combined and all the slalom events - nine golds in all.

Guardian Crossword No 20,837

Set by Rufus



- Across
1 Regular girl student (6)
4 Educational measure? (6)
9 Turns up with a mother cat (4)
10 It helps the dough spread farther (7,3)
11 Irregular forces decoration (5)
12 Jack Sprat's catch? (6)
13 The height of architectural draughtsmanship (6)
15 Reader's request for original work (4)
16 It is fitting amidst extremes of penury (4)
17 Stringent restriction takes vice to a low level (5)
21 Unearth a tomb in a Canadian province (5)
22 Discover a doctor breaking the law (6)
24 One who provides a luncheon voucher (4,6)
25 Female soldiers after company (4)
26 Not off upon a visit, but ready to make one (2,4)
27 What the champagne did when little Florence got married? (6)
Down
1 Not involved in fight, so not changed (7)
2 Gathers in spare parts (5)
3 Publicise wine where it's dirty free (7)
5 Show EEC arrangements about French wine (6)
6 Expressed sorrow about abstainer caught in cupidity (9)
7 It's obvious I've turned up to make an impression (7)
8 International shipping lines (8,5)
14 Acidly critical? (8)
16 Fix old boy up with dummy pill (7)
18 Master takes female over fifty, in marriage (7)
19 He's angry about the ref being wrong (7)
20 John, half-gone on the bottle, is jolly (6)
23 Tropical bird with head of ryme and a cry of a rook (5)

"I used to always say to Philip: 'Stay off the heavy drugs' and he'd give me a look and say: 'Oh, Ma, you don't think I'm stupid, do you?' But they lie to you. They surround themselves with other people on drugs and say: 'Don't let my Ma know.'" The perils of being a rock mum

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